

Cohomogeneity one manifolds with positive euler characteristic

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Abstract

We classify those manifolds of positive euler characteristic on which a lie group G acts with cohomogeneity one, where G is classical simple

Introduction

Cohomogeneity one manifolds are Riemannian manifolds with an action of a lie group such that the orbit space is one dimensional. They can be seen as generalisations of homogeneous spaces, but offer a richer structure which has been used for explicit constructions in the past. In particular, Bergery used cohomogeneity one manifolds to construct invariant Einstein metrics, and later Bryant and Salamon found cohomogeneity one metrics with exceptional holonomy groups, which is not possible in the homogeneous case. For details and many references see e.g. Alekseevsky and Alekseevsky [1992], Alekseevsky and Podestá [1997], Alekseevsky and Alekseevsky [1993] and Ale [1992].

An interesting connection arises with nonnegative or positive sectional curvature. Most constructions of nonnegatively or positively curved manifolds arise from product and quotient constructions, starting with lie groups and their bi-invariant metric. Grove and Ziller found a large class of nonnegatively curved manifolds within the cohomogeneity one category in Grove and Ziller [2000]: If there are two orbits of codimension two, there is a metric of nonnegative sectional curvature (this in particular includes the principal L -bundles over S^4 with $L = SO(3)$ or $L = SO(4)$). Later Grove and Ziller showed that every cohomogeneity one manifold supports a metric of nonnegative Ricci curvature, and one of positive Ricci curvature if and only if the fundamental group is finite (Grove and Ziller [2002]). The naturally arising question

if every cohomogeneity one manifold with finite fundamental group allows a metric of positive sectional curvature was answered negatively in Grove et al. [2006], where the Brieskorn variety is shown to be a counter example.

This work is concerned with the classification of cohomogeneity one manifolds with positive euler characteristic where the acting group G is classical simple. The first result is the following theorem, which hints at the importance of the classification result. The action is called *primitive* if there is no subgroup $L \subset G$ with a G -equivariant map $M \rightarrow G/L$.

Theorem 0.1. *Suppose the compact, connected lie group G acts primitively on the manifold M with positive euler characteristic such that $M/G = [0, 1]$. Suppose there is no normal subgroup of G that acts orbit equivalently, and that G is not simple. Then one of the following applies:*

1. *The action of G is equivalent to a cohomogeneity one action of a rank 1 symmetric space.*
2. *G is covered by $G' \times S^3$ where G' is simple and one of the singular orbits has codimension 3.*

While the classification result itself was moved to its own subsection within the introduction (due to the vast array of tables required), it should be noted that the number of examples in each dimension is finite. We know of no abstract reason for this. For each simple classical lie group G we will give a table of cohomogeneity one G -manifolds of positive euler characteristic in the following subsection. We will prove theorem 0.1 in section 2, after we have established the basics and notation in section 1. Because of the diagram-chase like qualities of the classification, we give an overview over the general procedure in section 3. In sections 4-9, the actual classification is carried out.

This classification would not have been possible without my advisor Burkhard Wilking, who I am indebted to for constant support throughout the years. I'd also like to thank Wolfgang Ziller for his help during my visit in 2007.

The result

Each simply connected, primitive cohomogeneity one G -manifolds of positive euler characteristic, where G is a classical simple group acting almost effectively, is, up to equivalence (that is, up to an outer automorphism of G , up to G -equivariance) one of the following:

- One of the classified cohomogeneity one manifolds of dimension less or equal to 7 (see 1.5.1).

- One of the actions with a fixed point described in 1.5.2
- One of the following homogeneous spaces: A Grassmanian, the cayley plane or one of

$$\frac{\mathrm{Sp}(n+1)}{\mathrm{Sp}(n-k+1)\mathrm{U}(k)}, \quad \frac{\mathrm{SO}(n+1)}{\mathrm{SO}(n-2k+1)\mathrm{U}(k)}$$

- Contained in the following tables (it is still possible that the tables contain homogeneous spaces).

The entries of the following tables are of the form $\mathbf{H} \subset \mathbf{K}_-, \mathbf{K}_+$, where \mathbf{K}_+ has maximal rank in \mathbf{G} , and $\mathbf{K}_\pm/\mathbf{H}$ are spheres. The manifold M is then equivalent to

$$\mathbf{G} \times_{\mathbf{K}_-} D^{l-+1} \cup \mathbf{G} \times_{\mathbf{K}_+} D^{l++1}$$

where $D^{l\pm+1}$ is the unit ball with boundary $\partial D^{l\pm+1} = \mathbf{K}_\pm/\mathbf{H}$, where the action of \mathbf{K}_\pm is extended linearly from the sphere $\mathbf{K}_\pm/\mathbf{H}$, and $\mathbf{G} \times_{\mathbf{K}_\pm} D^{l\pm+1}$ is the quotient of $\mathbf{G} \times D^{l\pm+1}$ by the diagonal action of \mathbf{K}_\pm (see 1.1 for more details).

The tables for the **Spin**-groups only list the effective actions (the non-effective ones are listed for the **SO**-groups), but those are given as $\pi(\mathbf{H}) \subset \pi(\mathbf{K}_-), \pi(\mathbf{K}_+)$, where $\pi : \mathbf{Spin}(n) \rightarrow \mathbf{SO}(n)$ is the projection.

The second column of the tables contains the euler characteristic.

- $\mathbf{G} = \mathrm{SU}(3)$

$\mathrm{S}^1 \subset \mathrm{SO}(3), \mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(1)\mathrm{U}(2))$	3
$\mathrm{S}^1 \subset \mathrm{SO}(3), \mathrm{T}^2$	6
$\mathbb{Z}_3\mathrm{SO}(2) \subset \mathbb{Z}_3\mathrm{SO}(3), \mathrm{T}^2$	6

- $\mathbf{G} = \mathrm{SU}(4)$

$\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SU}(2) \subset \mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{U}(2)), \mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(1)\mathrm{U}(3))$ where $\mathrm{S}^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(\bar{z}^2, z^4, \bar{z}, \bar{z})\} \subset N(\mathrm{SU}(2))$	10
$\mathrm{S}^1 \subset \sigma(\mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(1)\mathrm{U}(3))), \mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(1)\mathrm{U}(3))$ $\mathrm{S}^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(\bar{z}, z, 1, 1)\}$, σ exchanges the first two coordinates	8

- $\mathbf{G} = \mathrm{SU}(n), n \geq 5$

$S^1\mathrm{SU}(n-2) \subset \sigma(\mathrm{U}(n-1)), \mathrm{U}(n-1)$ $S^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(\bar{z}, z, 1, \dots, 1)\}, \sigma \text{ exchanges first two coordinates}$	$2n$
$S^1\mathrm{SU}(n-2) \subset \mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{U}(n-2)), \mathrm{U}(n-1)$ $S^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(\bar{z}^{n-2}, z^{n-2}, \bar{z}, \dots, \bar{z})\} \subset N(\mathrm{SU}(n-2))$	$\frac{n(n+1)}{2}$

- $G = \mathrm{SO}(2n+1), n \geq 3$

$\mathrm{SU}(3) \subset G_2, \mathrm{U}(3), n = 3$	8
$S^1\mathrm{SU}(3) \subset S^1G_2, \mathrm{U}(4), n = 4$	16
$\mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2n-3) \subset \mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2n-3), \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2n-2)$	$2n(n+1)$
$T^2\mathrm{SU}(n-2) \subset \mathrm{SO}(3)S^1\mathrm{SU}(n-2), \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{U}(n-1)$ $S^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(1, 1, 1, z, \dots, z)\}, T^2 = \{\mathrm{diag}(1, z, z^2, 1, \dots, 1)\} \cdot S^1$ $\mathrm{SO}(3) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{SO}(5)$ is irreducible ($\mathrm{SO}(5)$ upper left block)	$n2^n$

- $G = \mathrm{Spin}(2n+1), n \geq 3$

$S_k^1\mathrm{SU}(2) \subset \mathrm{U}(3), \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(5), n = 3$ where $S_k^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(z^2, z^k, z^k, 1)\}, k = 1, -3$ and $\mathrm{SU}(2)$ acts trivially on $\mathbb{R}e_1, \mathbb{R}e_2, \mathbb{R}e_7$	14
$\mathrm{SU}(3) \subset G_2, \mathrm{SO}(6), n = 3$	2
$\mathrm{SU}(3) \subset G_2, \mathrm{U}(3), n = 3$	8
$\mathrm{SU}(2)S_H^1\mathrm{SU}(2) \subset \mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{SO}(5), \mathrm{SO}(5)\mathrm{U}(2), n = 4$ where $S_H^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(z^{l_1}, z^{l_1}, 1, z^{l_2}, z^{l_2})\}$ and $l_1 = 2, l_2 = 1$ or $l_1 = 1 = l_2$.	48

- $G = \mathrm{Sp}(n), n \geq 2$

$\mathrm{Sp}(n-2)\Delta\mathrm{Sp}(1) \subset \mathrm{Sp}(n-2)\mathrm{SO}(2)\Delta\mathrm{Sp}(1), \mathrm{Sp}(n-1)\mathrm{Sp}(1)$ $\Delta\mathrm{Sp}(1)$ is the diagonal $\mathrm{Sp}(1)$ in the upper left $\mathrm{Sp}(2)$ -block $\mathrm{SO}(2)$ is the standard $\mathrm{SO}(2)$ in this block	$n(2n-1)$
$\mathbb{Z}_2\Delta\mathrm{Sp}(1) \subset \mathrm{SO}(2)\Delta\mathrm{Sp}(1), \mathbb{Z}_2\mathrm{Sp}(1)\mathrm{Sp}(1), n=2$ \mathbb{Z}_2 is generated by $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathrm{SO}(2)$ and $\Delta\mathrm{Sp}(1)$ are as above	8
$\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{Sp}(n-2) \subset \mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{Sp}(n-2), \mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{Sp}(n-1)$ where $\mathrm{S}^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(z, \bar{z}^2, 1, \dots, 1)\}$	$2n^2$
$\mathrm{S}_{\mathbb{H}}^1\mathrm{Sp}(n-2) \subset \mathrm{Sp}(1)\mathrm{Sp}(n-2), \mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{Sp}(n-1)$ $\mathrm{S}_{\mathbb{H}}^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(z, z^3, 1, \dots, 1)\}, \mathrm{Sp}(1) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{Sp}(2)$ (upper left block) given by the irreducible $\mathrm{SO}(3) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{SO}(5)$	$3n$
$\mathrm{T}_{\mathbb{H}}^2\mathrm{Sp}(n-3) \subset \mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SO}'(3)\mathrm{Sp}(n-3), \mathrm{T}^2\mathrm{Sp}(n-2)$ $\mathrm{S}^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(z, z, z, 1, \dots, 1)\}, \mathrm{T}_{\mathbb{H}}^2 = \{\mathrm{diag}(1, z, \bar{z}, 1, \dots, 1)\} \cdot \mathrm{S}^1$ $\mathrm{SO}'(3)$ is the conjugation of the standard upper left $\mathrm{SO}(3)$ -block by $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & i \\ 0 & 1 & -i \end{pmatrix}$	$4n(n-1)$

- $\mathrm{G} = \mathrm{SO}(2n), n \geq 4$

$\mathrm{SU}(4), \mathrm{Spin}(7), \mathrm{U}(4), n=4$	8
$\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SU}(4), \mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{Spin}(7), \mathrm{U}(5), n=5$	16
$\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SU}(n-1) \subset \sigma(\mathrm{U}(n)), \mathrm{U}(n)$ where $\mathrm{S}^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(z, 1, \dots, 1)\}$ or $\mathrm{S}^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(1, z, \dots, z)\}$ and σ is conjugation by $\mathrm{diag}(-1, 1, \dots, 1)$	2^{n+1}
$\mathrm{T}^2\mathrm{SU}(n-2) \subset \mathrm{SO}(3)\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SU}(n-2), \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{U}(n-1)$ where $\mathrm{S}^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(1, 1, 1, 1, z, \dots, z)\}, \mathrm{T}^2 = \{\mathrm{diag}(z, 1, \dots, 1)\} \cdot \mathrm{S}^1$ and $\mathrm{SO}(3)$ is the upper left block	$n2^{n-1}$

1 Preliminaries

In this section, we will cover the basics of cohomogeneity one manifolds, and list the properties most useful to us, especially those connected to the topology of M . We will also treat some properties of representations of certain simple Lie groups, which we will make use of later in the classification.

1.1 Cohomogeneity one actions

Suppose a compact Lie group G acts on the manifold M such that there is a 1-codimensional orbit G/H . It is known (see Bredon [1972] or Mostert [1957]) that M/G is homeomorphic to either S^1 or $[-1, 1]$ in the compact case, or \mathbb{R} or $[0, 1)$ in the noncompact case. The structure of all cases can be found in the pioneer work of Mostert [1957], and also (in more detail) in various papers by Alekseevsky, see e.g. Alekseevsky and Alekseevsky [1992]. We list the most important properties:

1.1.1 The noncompact case.

If $M/G = \mathbb{R}$, all orbits are regular and M is actually a fibre bundle over M/G with fibre G/H , which is necessarily trivial, since \mathbb{R} is contractible. Therefore, M is G -equivalent to $G/H \times \mathbb{R}$. In the case $M/G = [0, 1)$, there is exactly one singular orbit, say G/K (where $K \supset H$). Then K/H is a sphere $S^m \subset \mathbb{R}^{m+1}$, and the action of K on S^m can be extended linearly to \mathbb{R}^{m+1} . M is G -equivalent to $G \times_K \mathbb{R}^{m+1}$, on which G acts by left translation on the first factor.

1.1.2 The compact case.

If $M/G = S^1$, all orbits are regular and M is a fibre bundle over S^1 with fibre G/H . It's easily seen by the homotopy sequence of that bundle that $\pi_1(M)$ is infinite in this case. Also we have $\chi(M) = 0$, so we will not be concerned with this case.

The most interesting case is $M/G = [-1, 1]$, which is the one we are concerned with in this paper, and which we therefore lay out in more detail. Choose any G -invariant Riemannian metric on M . There are two singular orbits, so choose a minimal geodesic $c : [-1, 1] \rightarrow M$ between them, such that $\pi \circ c = id_{[-1, 1]}$ for the projection $\pi : M \rightarrow [-1, 1]$. Denote the isotropy groups by $H = G_{c(0)}$ and $K_{\pm} = G_{c(\pm 1)}$. By the slice theorem (see e.g. Bredon [1972]) there are tubular neighbourhoods $G \times_{K_{\pm}} D_{\pm}$ of the singular orbits K_{\pm} , where D_{\pm} is the disc of radius 1 normal to the singular orbit K_{\pm} . Since the

action of \mathbf{G} on M has cohomogeneity one, the action of \mathbf{K}_\pm on $S^{l_\pm} = \partial D_\pm$ is transitive, with isotropy group \mathbf{H} . Now M is constructed from the tubular neighbourhoods by gluing them along their common boundary $\pi^{-1}(0) \simeq \mathbf{G}/\mathbf{H}$:

$$M \simeq \mathbf{G} \times_{\mathbf{K}_-} D_- \cup_{\mathbf{G}/\mathbf{H}} \mathbf{G} \times_{\mathbf{K}_+} D_+$$

This uniquely determines M in terms of the groups $\mathbf{G} \supset \mathbf{K}_-, \mathbf{K}_+ \supset \mathbf{H}$: The action of \mathbf{K}_\pm on the sphere $S^{l_\pm} = \mathbf{K}_\pm/\mathbf{H}$ is linear and can therefore be extended to an action on the ball D_\pm , which in turn allows M be constructed as above. Note that the only condition imposed besides the inclusions is that $\mathbf{K}_\pm/\mathbf{H}$ is a sphere of any dimension. We call the collection of groups $\{\mathbf{G}, \mathbf{K}_-, \mathbf{K}_+, \mathbf{H}\}$ the *group diagram* of M , where it is understood that $\mathbf{K}_\pm \subset \mathbf{G}$ and $\mathbf{H} \subset \mathbf{K}_\pm$. The group diagram is of course not uniquely determined by M , since we did not assume effectiveness of the action of \mathbf{G} : If $\mathbf{G} \supset \mathbf{K}_-, \mathbf{K}_+ \supset \mathbf{H}$ is the group diagram of an ineffective cohomogeneity one manifold with ineffective kernel \mathbf{H}' , the effective version of the \mathbf{G} action has group diagram $\mathbf{G}/\mathbf{H}' \supset \mathbf{K}_-/\mathbf{H}', \mathbf{K}_+/\mathbf{H} \supset \mathbf{H}/\mathbf{H}'$. But even effective group diagrams are not uniquely determined by M (e.g., spheres can be represented by many such diagrams).

1.2 Equivalence, uniqueness of diagrams and primitivity

For the remainder of this work, we assume that we are in the second case described in 1.1.2, and we use the notation introduced there.

If M_1, M_2 carry a cohomogeneity one action of \mathbf{G} , we will call M_1 and M_2 *\mathbf{G} -equivariantly diffeomorphic* if there is a diffeomorphism $\psi : M_1 \rightarrow M_2$ such that $\psi(gp) = g\psi(p)$ for all $g \in \mathbf{G}, p \in M_1$. This will determine the group diagram of a cohomogeneity one \mathbf{G} -manifold M up to the following operations (see Grove et al. [2008]):

- Switching \mathbf{K}_- and \mathbf{K}_+
- Conjugating each group of the group diagram with an element of \mathbf{G}
- Replacing \mathbf{K}_- by $a\mathbf{K}_-a^{-1}$ for some $a \in N(\mathbf{H})_0$, the unity component of the normalizer of \mathbf{H} in \mathbf{G} , while keeping \mathbf{H} and \mathbf{K}_+ unmodified.

Of course, the classification works the other way around: We will classify the possible diagrams up to the listed operations and therefore get a list for the equivariant diffeomorphism types of cohomogeneity one \mathbf{G} -manifolds for a fixed lie group \mathbf{G} . We will not classify cohomogeneity one manifolds up to equivariant diffeomorphism, but up to a slightly coarser equivalence relation:

Definition 1.1. *Two cohomogeneity one G -manifolds M_1, M_2 are called equivalent, if they are equivariantly diffeomorphic up to an automorphism of G , i.e. if there is an automorphism φ of G and a diffeomorphism $\psi : M_1 \rightarrow M_2$ such that $\psi(gp) = \varphi(g)\psi(p)$ for all $g \in G, p \in M_1$.*

It is clear that applying an automorphism of G to all groups in the diagram of a cohomogeneity one manifold yields an equivalent cohomogeneity one manifold.

From a diagram $G \supset K_-, K_+ \supset H$ and an embedding $G \hookrightarrow G'$ we get a cohomogeneity one G' -manifold from the diagram $G' \supset K_-, K_+ \supset H$. To further diminish the items of the classification we will require minimality with respect to this extension process:

Definition 1.2. *A cohomogeneity one G -manifold M is called primitive, if for every group diagram $G \supset K_-, K_+ \supset H$ of M there is no subgroup $L \subset G$ such that $K_-, K_+ \subset L$.*

Nonprimitivity of M is equivalent to the existence of a G -equivariant map $M \rightarrow G/L$ for some subgroup $L \subsetneq G$. In this case, M is equivalent to $G \times_L N$, where N is the cohomogeneity one manifold determined by the group diagram $L \supset K_-, K_+ \supset H$ (see Alekseevsky and Alekseevsky [1992]). The action of L on N does not need to be effective, even if the one of G on M is.

As a motivation for studying primitive G -manifolds, note that if N has non-negative curvature, so has $G \times_L N$. The technical value of primitivity lies mostly in the following lemma, taken from Grove et al. [2008]:

Lemma 1.3. *Assume the primitive cohomogeneity one action of G on M is effective (almost effective). Then the intersection $H_- \cap H_+$ of the ineffective kernels H_\pm of K_\pm/H is trivial (finite).*

1.3 The topology

The description of M as a double disc bundle in 1.1.2 of course allows a computation of the fundamental group in terms of the group diagram. Vice versa, assuming M being simply connected, one arrives at the following properties of the groups involved:

Proposition 1.4 (Grove et al. [2008]). *Let M be a simply connected cohomogeneity one G -manifold. Then there are no exceptional orbits, and, in the notation of 1.1.2, we have $l_\pm \geq 1$, that is, $\dim K_\pm > \dim H$.*

A more direct computation using van Kampen's theorem, carried out in Hoelscher [2007], yields the following useful properties:

Proposition 1.5. *With the assumptions and notation of 1.4:*

- *If $l_+ > 1$ and $l_- \geq 1$, then K_- is connected*
- *If both $l_{\pm} > 1$, then all of H, K_-, K_+ are connected*

We will utilize this proposition frequently without further mention: The only way the group K_+ can be non-connected is when the “other sphere” K_-/H is 1-dimensional.

Another result concerns the euler characteristic of M (Alekseevsky and Podestá [1997]). Since $G \times_{K_{\pm}} D_{\pm}$ contains the singular orbit G/K_{\pm} as a deformation retract, the Mayer-Vietoris exact sequence can be applied to obtain the following exact sequence:

$$\dots \rightarrow H^i(M) \rightarrow H^i(K_-) \oplus H^i(K_+) \rightarrow H^i(G/H) \rightarrow H^{i+1}(M) \rightarrow \dots$$

This allows the following corollary:

Corollary 1.6. *Let M be a cohomogeneity one G -manifold with orbit space $[-1, 1]$. Using notation from 1.1.2, the euler characteristic of M is given by*

$$\chi(M) = \chi(G/K_-) + \chi(G/K_+) - \chi(G/H)$$

In particular, $\chi(M) > 0$ implies that one of $\chi(G/K_{\pm})$ is greater than zero, which is equivalent to one of the singular isotropy groups K_{\pm} having maximal rank in G .

Given the cohomogeneity one diagram, it is easy to compute the euler characteristic (see e.g. Wang [1949]). For a homogeneous space G/K where G, K are connected, compact with the same rank, we have

$$\chi(G/K) = o(G)/o(K)$$

where o denotes the order of the weyl group. For K not connected we only need to note that G/K is a finite cover of $G/(K)_0$.

For G simple, the maximal subgroups of maximal rank have been classified by Borel and Siebenthal (see e.g. Goto and Grosshans [1978]), up to an automorphism of G . This can easily be generalized to semisimple and compact groups, as well as to the non-maximal subgroups. We list the result for the classical groups in table 15.

Corollary 1.7. *Suppose $\chi(M) > 0$ and that K_+ has the same rank as G . Then the group H has corank 1 in G , i.e. the sphere S^{l_+} is odd dimensional.*

Proof. Suppose $p \in \mathbf{G}/\mathbf{K}_+$ is in the singular orbit given by \mathbf{K}_+ . Then the dimension of the slice representation at p is given by $\dim M - \dim \mathbf{G}/\mathbf{K}_+$. But both M and \mathbf{G}/\mathbf{K}_+ have positive euler characteristic, so they are even dimensional, and so is the slice representation at p . Therefore the sphere of the slice at p is odd dimensional. \square

We note that in the case that $\text{corank}(\mathbf{H}) = 1$ and $\text{corank}(\mathbf{K}_+) = 0$ we can derive $\chi(M) > 0$. This is not true in general for $\text{corank}(\mathbf{H}) = 0$.

1.4 Properties of the isotropy groups

Again, we carry over the assumptions and notation from 1.1.2 and 1.3. Since \mathbf{G} is compact, it is finitely covered by a group $\tilde{\mathbf{G}}$ of the form $\mathbf{T}^k \times \mathbf{G}_1 \times \cdots \times \mathbf{G}_l$ where \mathbf{T}^k is a k -dimensional torus, the center of $\tilde{\mathbf{G}}$, and $\mathbf{G}_1, \dots, \mathbf{G}_l$ are simple normal subgroups. We call $k + l$ the *number of factors of \mathbf{G}* , which is well-defined since \mathbf{G} is a finite quotient of $\tilde{\mathbf{G}}$. The fact that if \mathbf{G} acts transitively on a sphere, the isotropy group has at least $k + l - 1$ factors (see table 16) leads to the following lemma:

Lemma 1.8. *If \mathbf{G} acts almost effectively and primitively, \mathbf{K}_+ has at most 4 factors.*

Proof. Denote the number of factors of a group \mathbf{H} by $f(\mathbf{H})$. Since \mathbf{H}_\pm are normal subgroups of \mathbf{H} , it is clear that

$$f(\mathbf{H}_+) + f(\mathbf{H}_-) - f(\mathbf{H}_+ \cap \mathbf{H}_-) \leq f(\mathbf{H})$$

so that

$$f(\mathbf{H}_+) + f(\mathbf{H}_-) - f(\mathbf{H}) \leq f(\mathbf{H}_+ \cap \mathbf{H}_-)$$

By the classification of effective transitive actions on spheres (see table 16) we have $f(\mathbf{H}) - f(\mathbf{H}_\pm) = f(\mathbf{H}/\mathbf{H}_\pm) \leq 2$, which implies

$$2f(\mathbf{H}) - f(\mathbf{H}_-) - f(\mathbf{H}_+) \leq 4$$

and consequently

$$f(\mathbf{H}) - 4 \leq f(\mathbf{H}_+) + f(\mathbf{H}_-) - f(\mathbf{H}) \leq f(\mathbf{H}_+ \cap \mathbf{H}_-)$$

But now $f(\mathbf{H}_+ \cap \mathbf{H}_-) = 0$ by lemma 1.3, so that $f(\mathbf{H}) \leq 4$. By the classification of sphere actions we know $f(\mathbf{K}_+) \leq 5$, but if $f(\mathbf{K}_+) = 5$, we know that $\mathbf{K}_+/\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{S}^1$ or $\mathbf{K}_+/\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{S}^3$, and $(\mathbf{H})_0 = (\mathbf{H}_+)_0$ has 4 factors. This is a contradiction to $\mathbf{H}_+ \subset \mathbf{H}/\mathbf{H}_-$, given by primitivity. So $f(\mathbf{K}_+) \leq 4$. \square

Remark 1.9. *Since we are concerned with almost effective actions, any factor of K_+ that acts trivially on K_+/H (that is, is contained in H_+), cannot act trivially on K_-/H , so it has to occur as a factor of an isotropy group of an effective transitive sphere action in table 16, up to finite quotients. If K_+ has 4 factors $K_1 \cdots K_4$, we can after rearranging the order assume that $K_1 K_2$ act transitively almost effectively on a sphere, and $K_3 K_4$ appear as the isotropy group of a transitive effective action on a sphere, up to finite quotients. This will limit the choices when looking for possibilities for K_+ from table 15.*

Lemma 1.10. *The kernel of the action is the largest normal subgroup shared by G and H*

Proof. It is clear that the kernel of the action is a normal subgroup of both G and H . Conversely, any subgroup of H which is normal in G fixes the whole geodesic c pointwise, and since it's normal, it fixes the whole of M . \square

Remark 1.11. *For G simple, the only normal subgroups are finite and therefore central. So the kernel of the action is the intersection of H with the center of G .*

1.5 Known classification results

1.5.1 Cohomogeneity one manifolds of low dimension

Cohomogeneity one manifolds of dimension up to seven have been classified, with no assumption on the Euler characteristic: Neuman (Neumann [1968]) classified those of dimension three, Parker (Parker [1986]) those of dimension four (with one omission, as observed by C. Hoelscher), and Hoelscher (Hoelscher [2007]) classified those of dimension five to seven.

1.5.2 Cohomogeneity one manifolds with a fixed point

If the action of G on M has a fixed point, the classification is particularly easy: There are the obvious actions with two fixed points on spheres, and the following groups acting on compact rank one symmetric spaces:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{CP}^n &: \mathrm{SU}(n), \mathrm{U}(n) \\ \mathbb{HP}^n &: \mathrm{Sp}(n), \mathrm{Sp}(n) \times \mathrm{Sp}(1), \mathrm{Sp}(n) \times \mathrm{U}(1) \\ \mathbb{CP}^{2n+1} &: \mathrm{Sp}(n), \mathrm{Sp}(n) \times \mathrm{U}(1) \\ Ca\mathbb{P}^2 &: \mathrm{Spin}(9) \end{aligned}$$

The details can be found in Hoelscher [2007]

2 Proof of theorem 0.1

We start with a little lemma concerning orbit equivalent subactions, which will be used in the proof:

Lemma 2.1. *Let M be the cohomogeneity one G -manifold given by the diagram $H \subset K_-, K_+$, and suppose $G = G_1 \times G_2$. If the projection of H onto the second factor is G_2 , then the subaction of $G_1 \times 1$ on M is also cohomogeneity one.*

Proof. The claim can be tested on any orbit G/G_x , where G_x is one of H, K_\pm . For any $(g_1, g_2)G_x \in G/G_x$, there is some $(h_1, g_2) \in H$ by the assumption. Then $(g_1, g_2)G_x = (g_1 h_1^{-1}, 1)(h_1, g_2)G_x = (g_1 h_1^{-1}, 1)G_x$, so $(g_1, g_2)G_x$ is in the $G_1 \times 1$ -orbit of $(1, 1)G_x$. \square

We can now prove theorem 0.1.

Proof. By virtue of M having positive euler characteristic, we can assume K_+ has maximal rank in G . We also assume $G = G_1 \times \cdots \times G_l$ where each G_i is either simple or S^1 . Then also $K_+ = K_+^1 \times \cdots \times K_+^l$, where each K_+^i is a subgroup of G_i of maximal rank, and we can assume that K_+^1 acts transitively on the sphere K_+/H . Let pr_i be the projection from G onto the i -th factor. By the lemma above, $pr_i(H) \neq G_i$ for all $i = 1, \dots, l$.

We claim $l = 2$. Suppose $l > 2$ and let $p_2 : G \rightarrow G_2 \times \cdots \times G_l$ be the projection. Because K_+^1 acts transitively, we have $p_2(K_+) = p_2(H)$, and primitivity implies $p_2(K_-) = G_2 \times \cdots \times G_l$ (otherwise, $K_\pm \subset p_2^{-1}(p_2(K_-)) \neq G$, a contradiction to primitivity). But $pr_2(H) \neq G_2$, so $p_2^{-1}(G_2) \cap K_-$ acts transitively on K_-/H , which implies $p_3(K_-) = p_3(H)$ for the projection $p_3 : G \rightarrow G_3 \times \cdots \times G_l$. By the lemma above, $G_1 \times G_2$ acts orbit equivalent, a contradiction. Therefore $l = 2$.

For now suppose that $K_- \cap G_2$ is not finite. We have $pr_2(K_-) = G_2$, so $K_- \cap G_2$ is a normal subgroup of G_2 (if $(1, k_2) \in K_- \cap G_2$ and $g_2 \in G_2$ is arbitrary, then there is some $(k, g_2) \in K_-$, and $(1, g_2)(1, k_2)(1, g_2^{-1}) = (k, g_2)(1, k_2)(k^{-1}, g_2^{-1}) \in K_- \cap G_2$). By assumption, $K_- \cap G_2 = G_2$. But $pr_2(H) \neq G_2$, so $G_2 \subset K_-$ acts transitively on K_-/H , and therefore $pr_1(K_-) = pr_1(H)$. By primitivity, $pr_1(K_+) = G_1$, and from K_+ having the same rank as G we can deduce that G_1 is a normal subgroup of K_+ . We now divide cases by the dimension of the sphere S^{l-} :

- Suppose l_- is even, that is, the rank of K_- is the same as the rank of H . That implies that $pr_2(H)$ has full rank in G_2 and therefore H is a product subgroup of G . So we have

$$\begin{aligned}
K_- &= K_-^1 \times G_2 \\
H &= K_-^1 \times H_2 \\
K_+ &= G_1 \times H_2
\end{aligned}$$

where G_1/K_-^1 and G_2/H_2 are spheres. This is easily recognized as a so called sum-action on a sphere of even dimension (see e.g. Hoelscher [2007]).

- If l_- is odd, that is, the rank of K_- is $\text{rank}(H) + 1 = \text{rank}(G)$, then we have the following situation: $K_- = K_-^1 \times G_2, K_+ = G_1 \times K_+^2$. If we define $H_i := H \cap G_i$, we have that G_i/H_i is a sphere for $i = 1, 2$, and $H_1 \times H_2$ is a normal subgroup of H of corank 1. Then we can find a rank 1 normal subgroup ΔH of H that commutes with $H_1 \times H_2$ such that $H = (H_1 \times H_2)\Delta H$. We have $K_-^1 = \text{pr}_1(H)$ and $K_+^2 = \text{pr}_2(H)$.

Now consider the cohomogeneity one $G_1 \times G_2$ -manifold given by the group diagram $H_1 \times H_2 \subset H_1 \times G_2, G_1 \times H_2$, which is a sphere S^{2n+1} of odd dimension as above. We claim that M is the quotient of S^{2n+1} by a free action of $H/(H_1 \times H_2)$. For that we only need to consider the following actions of $H/(H_1 \times H_2)$ on the orbits of S^{2n+1} :

- $H/(H_1 \times H_2)$ acts freely on $G_1/H_2 \times G_2/H_1$ with quotient $G_1 \times G_2/H$.
- $H/(H_1 \times H_2)$ acts freely on $G_1/G_1 \times G_2/H_2 = G_2/H_2$ with quotient $G_2/\text{pr}_2(H)$.
- $H/(H_1 \times H_2)$ acts freely on $G_1/H_1 \times G_2/G_2 = G_1/H_1$ with quotient $G_1/\text{pr}_1(H)$.

In conclusion, the orbits of the action of G on the quotient of S^{2n+1} by $H/(H_1 \times H_2)$ are those of the action of G on M , which finishes this part of the proof (see section 1).

Lastly, consider $K_- \cap G_2$ finite. Then $\text{rank}(G_2) = 1$ and K_-/H is even dimensional (if $\text{rank}(K_-) = \text{rank}(G)$, i.e. the sphere is odd dimensional, then K_- is a product with $\text{pr}_2(K_-) = G_2$, a contradiction; also $K_- \cap G_2$ has corank 0 or 1 in G_2 , which implies $\text{rank}(G_2) \leq 1$). We also have $\text{pr}_2(K_-) = G_2$ and $\text{pr}_2(H) \neq G_2$, so G_2 is covered by S^3 and $K_-/H = S^2$.

□

3 The general procedure

In this section we will describe the actual procedure for the classification. We will treat each of the simple groups separately, and make extra sections for $SU(3)$ and $SU(4)$.

For each classical simple group G , we will first list the result, the table of group diagrams of cohomogeneity one G -manifolds up to equivalence. In order to prove this result, we will then list the possibilities for the subgroup K_+ of maximal rank, combining table 15, lemma 1.8 and remark 1.9. This is simply an exercise in book-keeping. The conditions listed ensure that the different cases really are disjoint. Note that for the sake of organisation we divided cases such as $SO(n), n \geq 2$ into the cases $SO(2)$ and $SO(n), n \geq 3$.

By what was said in section 1.2, we can assume K_+ has the standard block structure. We will then use table 16 to list the possibilities for the isotropy group H of the action of K_+ on the sphere K_+/H . Again, we can conjugate the diagram by an element of K_+ to ensure H is of a given form. After that, we can again use the same table to list the possibilities for K_- . Lemma 1.3 will be used without further mention to discard some of the possibilities. The last step is to check the possible embeddings of K_- into G , i.e. which are equivalent and which give a primitive diagram.

As far as possible, we will give the homogeneous representation for those examples that are actually homogeneous spaces. Most of the claims are easily checked, the more involved examples can be found in Grove et al. [2008].

3.1 The Spin-groups

The cases of the **Spin**-groups will be divided into two different cases each. First, we will classify the non-effective actions, i.e. those that are actually action of the special orthogonal group. After that, we will classify the effective actions of the **Spin**-groups. The procedure for the latter ones differs slightly from the general procedure described above: We will apply the projection $\pi : \text{Spin}(n) \rightarrow SO(n)$ to the whole diagram and classify the resulting diagrams. The list of subgroups of maximal rank is easily deduced from table 15.

Since we know the action is effective, we have $-1 \notin H$ (where -1 is the element that projects to the identity of $SO(n)$ but which is not the identity element of $\text{Spin}(n)$) by remark 1.11. This shortens the list of possibilities for K_+ , because it implies that H does not contain a subgroup of type $\text{Spin}(n), n \geq 3$.

We have $-1 \in K_+$ from the following fact: The preimage $\pi^{-1}(K)$ of a subgroup $K \subset SO(n)$ is connected if and only if the inclusion $K \hookrightarrow SO(n)$

induces a surjection on the fundamental group. This is the case for all maximal rank subgroups of $\mathrm{SO}(n)$, so their preimages contain -1 in the unity component. This implies that $\pi(K_+)/\pi(H)$ is a real projective space, and the possibilities for $\pi(H)$ can be deduced from table 16. We cannot assume $-1 \in K_-$, so we list the possibilities for $\pi(K_-)$ under the assumption that $\pi(K_-)/\pi(H)$ is either a sphere or a projective space. For a subgroup of $\mathrm{SO}(n)$ of a given isomorphism type it is easy to decide whether the above criterion applies, so we can decide if K_-/H is a sphere, and carry on as above.

For convenience of notation, we will always give the $\mathrm{SO}(n)$ -diagram $\pi(H) \subset \pi(K_-), \pi(K_+)$. By abuse of notation, we will discard the π , which will not lead to confusion, since everything is discussed in $\mathrm{SO}(n)$ anyways.

There is another simple fact we will make use of. In the situation described above, note that $\mathrm{SO}(n)/\pi(H)$ is not simply connected, because $\mathrm{Spin}(n)/H$ is a nontrivial cover. This implies in particular that $\pi(H) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{SO}(n)$ does not induce a surjection on the fundamental group.

4 $G = \mathrm{SU}(3)$

We claim that up to equivalence, the diagrams of the simply connected primitive cohomogeneity one $\mathrm{SU}(3)$ -manifolds with positive euler characteristic are given by table 1.

Table 1: $\mathrm{SU}(3)$ -cohomogeneity one manifolds

$S^1 \subset \mathrm{SU}(2), \mathrm{U}(2)$
$S^1 \subset \mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{U}(1)), \mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(1)\mathrm{U}(2))$
$S^1 \subset \mathrm{SO}(3), \mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(1)\mathrm{U}(2))$
$S^1 \subset \mathrm{SO}(3), \mathbb{T}^2$
$\mathbb{Z}_3\mathrm{SO}(2) \subset \mathbb{Z}_3\mathrm{SO}(3), \mathbb{T}^2$

By the classification of Borel and Siebenthal (see table 15), we have $K_+ = \mathrm{U}(2)$ or $K_+ = \mathbb{T}^2$. If $\dim H \geq 2$, we have $\dim M = \dim G/H + 1 \leq 7$, so M appears in Hoelscher [2007]. So we will assume $H = S^1$ for the rest of this section.

First assume $K_+ = \mathrm{U}(2)$, where $\mathrm{SU}(2)$ is embedded in the lower right block. By what was said above and what follows from B, we have $H = S_k^1$ where

$$S_k^1 = \{\text{diag}(\bar{z}, z^{k+1}, z^{-k}) \mid z \in S^1\}$$

If K_- acts almost effectively S^{l-} , we have $K_- \in \{U(2), SO(3), SU(2)\}$. Otherwise $K_- = T^2$, which we will treat later in this section, or $K_- = S_k^1 SU(2)$ where S_k^1 is normal in K_- and does not intersect $SU(2)$. The first is only possible for $k = -2$ or $k = 1$, but in both cases the (unique) $SU(2)$ in its normalizer is intersected.

For an almost effective action of $SU(2)$, we need to find an $SU(2)$ that contains S_k^1 , which implies $k = -1$ or $k = 0$. Both cases are equivalent by a change of the last 2 coordinates, which fixes K_+ , so we can assume $k = 0$, which gives a primitive example, because $N(H)_0 = T^2$. This is $SU(3)$ acting on $\mathbb{H}P^2$. If $K_- \simeq U(2)$, we will argue that we can assume both K_{\pm} contain the same maximal torus. Of course, we can conjugate the maximal torus of K_- into the standard one, and by changing the conjugation with an element of K_+ , we may assume it preserves S_k^1 . But then both S_k^1 and its conjugate are diagonal, so by changing the conjugation with an element of the Weyl group, we may assume it actually preserves S_k^1 pointwise, so it is contained in its centralizer, which is in $N(S_k^1)_0$. Now both K_{\pm} contain the same maximal torus, so they are conjugate by an element of the Weyl group, and since one of those elements fixes K_+ , we can assume $K_- = S(U(2)U(1))$. Checking the possible isotropy groups of K_- , we see $k = \pm 1$. For $k = 1$, the normalizer of S_1^1 contains an $SU(2)$ in which we can realize the exchange of the first and the third coordinate, transforming K_- into K_+ , so this is not a primitive example. For $k = -1$, we have $N(S_{-1}^1)_0 = T^2$, so this example is primitive, a Grassmanian.

Now we will show that there is one example for $K_- = SO(3)$. For that we will argue that K_- is conjugate to the standard $SO(3)$ in $N(S_k^1)_0$. Since there is only one 3-dimensional representation of $SO(3)$, we know K_- is conjugate to the standard subgroup. But all $SO(2) \subset SO(3)$ are conjugate, so we may assume this conjugation preserves the standard $SO(2)$, i.e. it is in its normalizer $O(2) \times S^1$, where S^1 is given by $\text{diag}(z, z, \bar{z}^2)$. But every conjugation of $O(2)$ on $SO(2)$ can be realized in $SO(2)$ itself, so we can assume the conjugation comes from $N(SO(2))_0$. But now S_k^1 can only be contained in $SO(3)$ if it's conjugate to $SO(2)$, so the embedding $S_k^1 \hookrightarrow SU(3)$ must have a 1-dimensional trivial subrepresentation, implying $k = 0, -1$. Both of those are conjugate to the standard $SO(2)$, so by the argument above we can assume K_- is the standard $SO(3)$. Since S_{-1}^1 and S_0^1 can be transformed into each other by an outer automorphism of K_+ (complex conjugation, which is also an automorphism of $SU(3)$) that leaves $SO(3)$ invariant, we just get 1 example from this case.

The second and last case to consider is $K_+ = T^2$. We have $H_0 = S^1$, therefore $(K_-)_0$ is one of $SO(3), U(2), SU(2), T^2$.

If $(K_-)_0 = T^2$, it is contained in the centralizer of H_0 as well as $(K_+)_0$, so both are conjugate in $N(H)_0$ in particular. Since a maximal torus has finite index in its normalizer, this shows that no primitive example arises in this case.

If $(K_-)_0 = SU(2)$, then H_0 is a maximal torus in K_- . By conjugating the diagram we may assume $(K_-)_0$ is given by the lower 2×2 -block, and H_0 the standard maximal torus therein. This determines the maximal torus T^2 in $SU(3)$, and both of K_- and K_+ are contained in $U(2)$.

For $(K_-)_0 = U(2)$: If H_0 is regular, i.e. $Z(H)_0 = T^2 \subset U(2)$, this is obviously not primitive. If H_0 is not regular, its isotropy representation has 2 equal eigenvalues, and we may assume we have

$$(H)_0 = \{\text{diag}(z, z, \bar{z}^2) \mid z \in S^1\}$$

Its isotropy representation therefore has 2 equivalent 2-dimensional factors, which are in fact equivalent in $N(H)_0$, so we can conjugate $(K_-)_0$ into

$$U(2) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} \det \bar{A} & 0 \\ 0 & A \end{pmatrix} \mid A \in U(2) \right\}$$

without changing T^2 , so there is also no new primitive example.

In the case $(K_-)_0 = SO(3)$, K_- is actually given by the standard embedding, for $SO(3)$ has no outer automorphisms and its only faithful 3-dimensional representation is irreducible. The latter also implies that its centralizer is given by \mathbb{Z}_3 , the set of diagonal matrices, so we have $N(SO(3)) = SO(3)\mathbb{Z}_3$. Since T^2 is uniquely determined by $H_0 = S^1$, we obtain two new examples, both of which are primitive for the isotropy representation of $SO(3)$ in $SU(3)$ is irreducible, so $SO(3)$ is a maximal subgroup not containing K_+ . The examples are $S^1 \subset \{SO(3), T^2\}$ and $S^1\mathbb{Z}_3 \subset \{SO(3)\mathbb{Z}_3, T^2\}$. Note that K_+ is connected, since $l_- = 2$.

5 $G = SU(4)$

We claim that up to equivalence the diagrams of the simply connected primitive cohomogeneity one $SU(4)$ -manifolds with positive euler characteristic are given by tables 2 and 3.

By the classification of Borel and Siebenthal, given in table 15, and remark 1.9, we know K_+ is one of $U(3), S^1SU(2)SU(2), S^1U(2)$.

Table 2: $\mathrm{SO}(6)$ -cohomogeneity one manifolds

$\mathrm{SO}(4) \subset \mathrm{SO}(5), \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(4)$
$\mathbb{Z}_2\mathrm{SO}(4) \subset \mathbb{Z}_2\mathrm{SO}(5), \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(4)$
$\mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(3) \subset \mathrm{SO}(3)\mathrm{SO}(3), \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(4)$
$\mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2) \subset \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(3), \mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2)$
$\mathrm{U}(2) \subset \mathrm{SO}(4), \mathrm{U}(3)$
$\mathrm{T}^2 \subset \mathrm{SO}(3)\mathrm{SO}(2), \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{U}(2)$ where $\mathrm{T}^2 = \{\mathrm{diag}(z_1, 1, 1, z_2)\}$

Table 3: $\mathrm{SU}(4)$ -cohomogeneity one manifolds

$\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SU}(2) \subset \mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{U}(2)), \mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(1)\mathrm{U}(3))$ where $\mathrm{S}^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(\bar{z}^2, z^4, \bar{z}, \bar{z})\} \subset N(\mathrm{SU}(2))$
$\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SU}(2) \subset \mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{U}(2)), \mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(1)\mathrm{U}(3))$ where $\mathrm{S}^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(\bar{z}^2, 1, z, z)\} \subset N(\mathrm{SU}(2))$
$\mathrm{S}^1 \subset \sigma(\mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(1)\mathrm{U}(3))), \mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(1)\mathrm{U}(3))$ where $\mathrm{S}^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(\bar{z}, z, 1, 1)\}$ and σ exchanges the first two coordinates

First, we deal with that case that $\mathrm{Sp}(2)$ is contained in any of the regular isotropy groups. Since $\mathrm{rank}(\mathrm{Sp}(2)) = 2 < \mathrm{rank}(\mathrm{SU}(4))$, and $\mathrm{Sp}(2)$ is a maximal connected subgroup of $\mathrm{SU}(4)$, we can deduce $(\mathrm{K}_-)_0 = \mathrm{Sp}(2)$. Because K_+ has maximal rank in $\mathrm{SU}(4)$, and the rank of K_+ and H can differ by at most 1, we see $\mathrm{rank}(\mathrm{H}) = \mathrm{rank}(\mathrm{K}_-)$, so K_-/H must be an even dimensional sphere. By the classification of transitive effective actions on spheres (see table 16), we know $\mathrm{H} = \mathrm{Sp}(1)\mathrm{Sp}(1)$, where the common central element of $\mathrm{H}, \mathrm{K}_-, \mathrm{SU}(4)$ is in the kernel of the action of G , so this is actually an action of $\mathrm{SO}(6) = \mathrm{SU}(4)/\{\pm Id\}$, and $(\mathrm{K}_-)_0 = \mathrm{SO}(5)$, $(\mathrm{H})_0 = \mathrm{SO}(4)$. Since $\mathrm{rank}(\mathrm{K}_+) = 3$, we have $\mathrm{K}_+ = \mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SO}(4)$. Both K_+ and H can have at most 2 components, so S^1 can act with weight 1 or 2 on the slice, giving two primitive examples (weight 1 leading to a Grassmanian).

Now we divide cases by K_+ , under the assumption that K_- does not

contain $\mathrm{Sp}(2)$ as a factor (which is true for K_+ by the classification anyways).

So now assume $K_+ = \mathrm{U}(3)$, where $\mathrm{SU}(3)$ is the lower right block. If $\mathrm{SU}(3) \subset H$, then it's easily seen that $K_- = \mathrm{SU}(4)$ by table 16, which is listed in subsection 1.5.2. So we can assume $\mathrm{SU}(3) \not\subset H$, which implies that $\mathrm{U}(3)$ acts almost effectively on the slice, giving $H = S_k^1 \mathrm{SU}(2)$, where

$$S_k^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(\bar{z}^2, z^{2(k+1)}, \bar{z}^k, \bar{z}^k) \mid z \in S^1\}$$

and $\mathrm{SU}(2)$ is the lower right block (see section B). We now divide cases by the rank of K_- and its dimension:

- If $\mathrm{rank}(K_-) = \mathrm{rank}(H)$, we have $K_-/H = \mathbb{S}^2$ and $K_-/H_- = \mathrm{SO}(3)$. Moreover, the semisimple part of H is contained in H_- , and therefore $K_- \subset N(\mathrm{SU}(2)) = S^1 \mathrm{SU}(2) \mathrm{SU}(2)$. That implies $K_- = \mathrm{SU}(2) \mathrm{SU}(2)$, and since $H \subset \mathrm{SU}(2) \mathrm{SU}(2)$, we have $k = 0$. This leaves one primitive example, $\mathrm{SU}(4)$ acting on $\mathbb{H}P^3$.

From now on, we can assume $\mathrm{rank}(K_-) > \mathrm{rank}(H)$. We divide cases by the dimension of K_-/H , which is easily seen to be bounded by 5.

- If $K_-/H = S^1$, we have $T^2 \mathrm{SU}(2) = K_- \subset N(H)_0$. If $k \neq 2$, we have $N(H)_0 = T^2 \mathrm{SU}(2) \subset K_+$, so there will be no primitive example. For $k = -2$, we have $N(H)_0 = S^1 \mathrm{SU}(2) \mathrm{SU}(2)$, and it is easily seen that up to conjugation in $N(H)_0$ we have $K_- \subset K_+$. As before, this contradicts primitivity.
- If $K_-/H = S^3$, then $K_- = S(\mathrm{U}(2) \mathrm{U}(2))$. Since K_-/H is a sphere, we have that $\mathrm{SU}(2) \cap H$ is trivial, where $\mathrm{SU}(2)$ is the upper left block. This leads to $k = \pm 1$ and gives 2 examples, which are obviously primitive and a Grassmanian.
- Lastly, consider $K_-/H = S^5$. This implies $K_- = \mathrm{U}(3)$, and by studying the isotropy representation of $\mathrm{SU}(4)/H$, there are two possibilities for K_- , but since primitivity implies $K_- \neq K_+$, we know $K_- = \sigma K_+ \sigma$, where

$$\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Then K_-/H is a sphere if and only if $\sigma \mathrm{SU}(3) \sigma^{-1} \cap H = \mathrm{SU}(2)$ (where $\mathrm{SU}(3)$ and $\mathrm{SU}(2)$ are the lower right blocks). We easily see that

$$\sigma \mathrm{SU}(3) \sigma^{-1} \cap \mathbf{H} = \{\mathrm{diag}(\bar{z}^2, z, \bar{z}^k, \bar{z}^k) \cdot A \mid z^{2(k+1)} = 1, A \in \mathrm{SU}(2)\}$$

and this implies $k = 0, -2$. If $k = 0$, we have $N(\mathbf{H})_0 = \mathrm{T}^2 \mathrm{SU}(2)$, which does not contain σ , so this is a primitive example. If $k = -2$, we have $N(\mathbf{H})_0 = \mathrm{S}^1 \mathrm{SU}(2) \mathrm{SU}(2)$, so up to conjugation in $N(\mathbf{H})_0$ we have $\mathbf{K}_- = \mathbf{K}_+$, which is not possible. This finishes the case $\mathbf{K}_+ = \mathrm{U}(3)$.

The cases left are $(\mathbf{K}_+)_0 = \mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(1)\mathrm{U}(1)\mathrm{U}(2))$ and $(\mathbf{K}_+)_0 = \mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{U}(2))$. Common for both consider $\mathrm{SU}(2) \subset \mathbf{H}_+$. This would imply that $\mathrm{SU}(2)$ needs to act on \mathbf{K}_-/\mathbf{H} , and therefore $\mathbf{K}_- = \mathrm{U}(3)$ or $\mathbf{K}_- = \mathrm{Sp}(2)$, which are cases we have considered before.

Now assume $(\mathbf{K}_+)_0 = \mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{U}(2))$ and $\mathrm{SU}(2) \not\subset \mathbf{H}_+$. It is clear than that $(\mathbf{H}_+)_0 = \mathrm{S}^1$, and $\mathbf{K}_+/\mathbf{H}_+ = \mathrm{SO}(4)$, implying $\mathrm{SU}(4)$ acts as $\mathrm{SO}(6)$. Switching to $\mathrm{SO}(6)$, we have $(\mathbf{K}_+)_0 = \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(4)$ and $\mathbf{H}_0 = \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(3)$, where $\mathrm{SO}(2)$ is the upper left and $\mathrm{SO}(3)$ and $\mathrm{SO}(4)$ are the lower right block. Since $\mathrm{SO}(2)$ must act on \mathbf{K}_-/\mathbf{H} , and the isotropy representation of $\mathrm{SO}(6)/\mathbf{H}$ decomposes in one irreducible factor of dimension 3, 6 and 2 each, it's easy to deduce $\mathbf{K}_- = \mathrm{SO}(3)\mathrm{SO}(3)$, which gives a primitive example (a Grassmanian). Note that both $l_{\pm} > 1$, so all groups are connected.

The last case to consider is $(\mathbf{K}_+)_0 = \mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(1)\mathrm{U}(1)\mathrm{U}(2))$, where $\mathrm{SU}(2) \not\subset \mathbf{H}_+$, as we have argued above. This implies $\mathbf{K}_+/\mathbf{H} = \mathbb{S}^3$, and since \mathbf{H}/\mathbf{H}_- contains S^1 as a factor, we see $l_- > 1$, so all groups are connected. We have $\mathbf{H} = \mathrm{T}^2$, and consider cases by the rank of $N(\mathbf{K}_-)$:

- Suppose $\mathrm{rank}(N(\mathbf{K}_-)) = 3$. We consider the standard representation ρ of $\mathrm{SU}(4)$ on \mathbb{C}^4 and its restriction to \mathbf{K}_{\pm} and \mathbf{H} . We know $\rho|_{\mathbf{K}_{\pm}}$ decomposes into a two-dimensional and two one-dimensional irreducible factors, while $\rho|_{\mathbf{H}}$ decomposes into four one-dimensional irreducible factors.

Consider for a moment the subcase that $\rho|_{\mathbf{H}}$ decomposes into 4 inequivalent subrepresentations $\mathbb{C}e_1 \oplus \mathbb{C}e_2 \oplus \mathbb{C}e_3 \oplus \mathbb{C}e_4$. Then the two-dimensional irreducible subspaces of $\rho|_{\mathbf{K}_{\pm}}$ are necessarily given by $V_{\pm} = \mathbb{C}e_{i_{\pm}} \oplus \mathbb{C}e_{j_{\pm}}$ for some $i_{\pm} \neq j_{\pm}$. If $V_+ \cap V_- \neq 0$, then after permutation we can assume $V_{\pm} \subset \mathbb{C}e_2 \oplus \mathbb{C}e_3 \oplus \mathbb{C}e_4$. But that means that both \mathbf{K}_{\pm} are contained in the lower 3x3-block, a contradiction. But if $V_+ \cap V_- = 0$, we can use a permutation again to assume $V_+ = \mathbb{C}e_1 \oplus \mathbb{C}e_2$ and $V_- = \mathbb{C}e_3 \oplus \mathbb{C}e_4$, which implies $\mathbf{K}_{\pm} \subset \mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{U}(2))$, again a contradiction.

So we assume that $\rho|_{\mathbf{H}}$ has two equivalent one-dimensional subrepresentations (note that it could not be three for any embedding $\mathbf{T}^2 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{SU}(4)$). This implies $N(\mathbf{H}) = \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{U}(2)\mathbf{U}(1)\mathbf{U}(1))$, where after a permutation we may assume that $\mathbb{C}e_1$ and $\mathbb{C}e_2$ are the equivalent subrepresentations of $\rho|_{\mathbf{H}}$. Now we can argue exactly as before, using that $V_{\pm} = A(\mathbb{C}e_{i_{\pm}} \oplus \mathbb{C}e_{j_{\pm}})$ for some $A \in N(\mathbf{H})_0$. Since we may conjugate \mathbf{K}_{\pm} by any element in $N(\mathbf{H})_0$ without changing the manifold, we can actually assume that $V_{\pm} = \mathbb{C}e_{i_{\pm}} \oplus \mathbb{C}e_{j_{\pm}}$ and arrive at a contradiction as before. This finishes the subcase $\text{rank}(N(\mathbf{K}_-)) = 3$ of $(\mathbf{K}_+)_0 = \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{U}(1)\mathbf{U}(1)\mathbf{U}(2))$.

- The last case to consider is $\text{rank}(N(\mathbf{K}_-)) = 2$ and $(\mathbf{K}_+)_0 = \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{U}(1)\mathbf{U}(1)\mathbf{U}(2))$. This readily implies $\text{rank}(\mathbf{K}_-) = 2$ and therefore $\mathbf{K}_-/\mathbf{H} = \mathbb{S}^2$. The representation $\rho|_{\mathbf{K}_-}$ (see the item before for the notation) can not be irreducible, because otherwise its restriction to the semisimple part would be irreducible as well, which would imply $\text{rank}(\mathbf{K}_-) = 1$. By virtue of $\text{rank}(N(\mathbf{K}_-)) = 2$ it is clear that $\rho|_{\mathbf{K}_-}$ either decomposes into two 2-dimensional irreducible subrepresentations, or into one 3-dimensional and one 1-dimensional irreducible subrepresentation. This leaves us with two cases:

a)

$$\mathbf{K}_- = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} A & \\ & \bar{A} \end{pmatrix} \mid A \in \mathbf{U}(2) \right\}$$

b) $\mathbf{K}_- = \mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{SO}(3)$ where $\mathbf{SO}(3)$ is the upper left block and

$$\mathbf{S}^1 = \text{diag}(z, z, z, \bar{z}^3)$$

In case b), we can use conjugation in $\mathbf{SO}(3)$ to achieve

$$\mathbf{H} = \{\text{diag}(z_1, \bar{z}_1, 1, 1)\} \cdot \{\text{diag}(z_2, z_2, z_2, \bar{z}_2^3)\}$$

Thus $\rho|_{\mathbf{H}}$ decomposes into four inequivalent one-dimensional subrepresentations $\mathbb{C}e_i, i = 1, \dots, 4$, and the irreducible three-dimensional representation corresponding to $\rho|_{\mathbf{K}_-}$ is $\mathbb{C}e_1 \oplus \mathbb{C}e_2 \oplus \mathbb{C}e_3$. By primitivity, the irreducible 2-dimensional subspace of $\rho|_{\mathbf{K}_+}$ is given by $\mathbb{C}e_i \oplus \mathbb{C}e_4, i = 1, \dots, 3$, and the whole group picture is determined by i . Since exchanging the first two coordinates leaves \mathbf{K}_- and \mathbf{H} invariant, the cases $i = 1$ and $i = 2$ are equivalent, which leaves two possible examples. We claim that \mathbf{K}_+/\mathbf{H} is not a sphere for $i = 3$, but it is for $i = 2$, which gives a primitive example.

- $i = 3$: Since $\mathrm{SU}(2)$ acts transitively on K_+/H with isotropy $\mathrm{SU}(2) \cap \mathrm{H}$, we need to show the latter is not trivial. An element of H being in $\mathrm{SU}(2)$ is equivalent to the three equations $z_1 z_2 = 1$, $\bar{z}_1 z_2 = 1$ and $z_2^2 = 1$. This is obviously true for $z_1 = z_2 = -1$, which constitutes a nontrivial element of $\mathrm{SU}(2) \cap \mathrm{H}$.
- $i = 2$: Exchange the first and the third coordinate, moving $\mathrm{SU}(2)$ to the lower right block and conjugating H into

$$\mathrm{diag}(z_1, 1, \bar{z}_1, 1) \mathrm{diag}(z_2, z_2, z_2, \bar{z}_2^3)$$

We can read off the equations as before. This time the second coordinate shows that any element of $\mathrm{H} \cap \mathrm{SU}(2)$ fulfills $z_2 = 1$, which readily implies $z_1 = 1$ from the first coordinate, so that in this case $\mathrm{H} \cap \mathrm{SU}(2)$ is trivial.

In case a), we use the fact that $-Id \in \mathrm{SU}(4)$ is in the kernel of the action, and replace $\mathrm{SU}(4)$ with $\mathrm{SO}(6)$. This gives $\mathrm{K}_- = \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(3)$ (where $\mathrm{SO}(2)$ is in the upper left and $\mathrm{SO}(3)$ in the lower right block) and $\mathrm{H} = \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2)$, where the two trivial subrepresentations of $\rho|_{\mathrm{H}}$ are spanned by e_3 and e_4 . By primitivity, we have $\mathrm{K}_+ = \mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2)$, giving one primitive example, the homogeneous space

$$\frac{\mathrm{SO}(7)}{\mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{SO}(3)}$$

6 $\mathrm{G} = \mathrm{SU}(n), n \geq 5$

We claim that, up to equivalence, the diagrams of the simply connected primitive cohomogeneity one $\mathrm{SU}(n)$ -manifolds ($n \geq 5$) with positive euler characteristic are given by table 4.

The possibilities for K_+ are summarized in table 5 (again, we refer to section 3).

- 2a) In this case we assume $\mathrm{K}_+ = \mathrm{U}(n-1)$, where we can assume $\mathrm{SU}(n-1)$ is the lower right block (this also determines the center of $\mathrm{U}(n-1)$). If $\mathrm{SU}(n-1) \subset \mathrm{H}_+$, we have $\mathrm{SU}(n) \subset \mathrm{K}_-$, which is treated in 1.5.2. If $n > 5$ and $\mathrm{SU}(n-1) \not\subset \mathrm{H}_+$, we can use table 16 to see that $\mathrm{K}_+/\mathrm{H}_+$ is $\mathrm{U}(n-1)$, so by B.0.1 we have $\mathrm{H} = \mathrm{S}_k^1 \mathrm{SU}(n-2)$ where

$$\mathrm{S}_k^1 = \{ \mathrm{diag}(\bar{z}^{n-2}, z^{(k+1)(n-2)}, z^{-k}, \dots, z^{-k}) \mid z \in \mathbb{S}^1 \}$$

Table 4: $SU(n)$ -cohomogeneity one manifolds for $n > 4$

$S^1 \subset \sigma(U(n-1)), U(n-1)$ where $S^1SU(n-2) = \{\text{diag}(\bar{z}, z, 1, \dots, 1)\}$ and σ exchanges first two coordinates
$S^1SU(n-2) \subset S(U(2)U(n-2)), U(n-1)$ where $S^1 = \{\text{diag}(\bar{z}^{n-2}, z^{n-2}, \bar{z}, \dots, \bar{z})\} \subset N(SU(n-2))$
$S^1SU(n-2) \subset S(U(2)U(n-2)), U(n-1)$ where $S^1 = \{\text{diag}(\bar{z}^{n-2}, 1, z, \dots, z)\} \subset N(SU(n-2))$
$S^1SU(n-2) \subset SU(2)SU(n-2), U(n-1)$ where $S^1 = \{\text{diag}(\bar{z}, z, 1, \dots, 1)\} \subset N(SU(n-2))$
$S^1SU(n_1-1)SU(n_2) \subset S(U(n_1-1)U(n_2+1)), S(U(n_1)U(n_2))$ where $S^1 = \{\text{diag}(\underbrace{\bar{z}^{n_2}, \dots, \bar{z}^{n_2}}_{\times n_1-1}, 1, \underbrace{z^{n_1-1}, \dots, z^{n_1-1}}_{\times n_2})\}$ and $SU(n_1-1)SU(n_2) \subset H$ acts trivially on $\mathbb{C}n_1$ ($n_1 + n_2 = n-1, n_1, n_2 > 1$)

For $n = 5$, there is the additional possibility that $SU(4) = \text{Spin}(6)$ acts with isotropy $\text{Spin}(5) = \text{Sp}(2)$, i.e. $H = S^1\text{Sp}(2)$. But $K_+/H_+ = SO(6)$ implies $S^1 \subset H_+$, and $K_+/S^1 = SO(6)/\{\pm Id\}$, which by table 16 cannot act transitively on any sphere. So the above claim holds for $n = 5$ as well. We differentiate between the possible values for H_- (the kernel of the action of K_- on K_-/H).

If K_- acts almost effectively on K_-/H , we have $K_- \simeq U(n-1)$, and by studying the isotropy representation of H in G we see that primitivity implies $K = \sigma K_+ \sigma^{-1}$ where

$$\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & & & \\ -1 & 0 & & & \\ & & 1 & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

where the empty spaces are filled up with zeroes. H can only occur as

Table 5: Possibilities for K_+

Factors	Subcase	Group	Conditions
2	2a	$U(n-1)$	$n > 2$
3	3a	$S(U(n_1)U(n_2))$	$n_1, n_2 > 1, n_1 + n_2 = n$
3	3b	$S^1U(n-2)$	$n > 3$
4	4a	$S(U(1)U(n_1)U(n_2))$	$n_1, n_2 > 1, n_1 + n_2 = n - 1$

an isotropy group for a transitive almost effective action on a sphere of K_- in the case $k = 0$ or $k = -2$. In the latter case, we have $N(H)_0 = SU(2)H$, which contains σ , so this is not a primitive example. In the former case, K_- and K_+ are not conjugate by an element of $N(H)_0 = T^2SU(n-2)$, so we get a primitive example.

The next case is $H_- = S_k^1$. Either S_k^1 intersects $SU(n-2)$ and H/H_- is a proper quotient of $SU(n-2)$, and $K_-/H_- = SO(7)$, which follows from studying the classification of transitive effective actions on spheres given in table 16. Since $N(S_k^1)$ does not contain $Spin(7)$ or $SO(7)$, this is impossible. The other possibility is that S_k^1 does not intersect $SU(n-2)$, which is the case exactly if $n-2$ divides k . Since $SU(n-1) \subset N(S_k^1)$, we have $k = n-2$, which is impossible because $SU(n-1) \cap S_{n-2}^1 \neq 0$.

If $(H_-)_0 = SU(n-2)$, we have $H/H_- \simeq S^1$ and $K_-/H \in \{S^2, S^3\}$. Also $K_- \subset N(SU(n-2)) = S^1SU(2)SU(n-2)$. If $K_- = SU(2)SU(n-2)$, that implies $k = 0$ and gives a primitive example ($SU(n)$ acting on $\mathbb{H}P^{n-1}$). If $K_- = N(SU(n-2))$, the condition that $SU(2) \cap H$ is trivial is

$$SU(2) \cap H = \{\text{diag}(\bar{z}^{n-2}, z^{n-2}, 1, \dots, 1) \mid (z^k)^{n-2} = 1\} \text{ is trivial}$$

which implies $|k| = 1$ and gives 2 primitive examples ($k = -1$ gives a Grassmanian).

- 3a) For the case $K_+ = S^1SU(n_1)SU(n_2)$, we will first do the most general case and after that care for the exceptional actions. Since $n_1, n_2 > 1$, one of $SU(n_1), SU(n_2)$ must act on S^{l+} , and we may assume it's $SU(n_1)$.

Let's first show that without any further assumptions, we have $Sp(2) \not\subset H$. Otherwise $n_1 = 4$ (and $S^1SU(4) \neq U(4)$ as well, but we don't need

that), and $H = S^1 \text{Sp}(2) \text{SU}(n-4)$. This would mean $S^1 \text{SU}(n-4) \subset H_-$, but $N(\text{Sp}(2))_0 = H$, so K_-/H could not possibly be a sphere of positive dimension.

Now assume $n_1 > 3, n_2 > 2$. By the previous paragraph the action of K_+ on K_+/H is given as follows: The matrix $\begin{pmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & B \end{pmatrix}$ with $A \in \text{U}(n_1), B \in \text{U}(n_2), \det A \det B = 1$ acts as $(\det A)^k A$, giving

$$H = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} A' & \\ & a & \\ & & B \end{pmatrix} \mid a \det A' \det B = 1 \text{ and } a^{k+1} = \overline{\det A'}^k \right\}$$

for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. Now $\text{SU}(n_2)$ cannot act trivially on K_-/H . If $n_2 = 4$, we could have $K_-/H_- \simeq \text{SO}(7)$, but there is no $\text{SO}(7)$ or $\text{Spin}(7)$ in the normalizer $N(H) = \text{S}(\text{U}(n_1 - 1) \text{U}(n_2))$. Since $n_2 > 2$, by the classification of effective actions on spheres we have $K_- = S^1 \text{SU}(n_1 - 1) \text{SU}(n_2 + 1)$, where $\text{SU}(n_1 - 1)$ is the upper left and $\text{SU}(n_2 + 1)$ the lower right block. The action of K_- on K_-/H is given in a similar fashion as before, giving the isotropy group

$$\tilde{H} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} A' & \\ & a & \\ & & B \end{pmatrix} \mid a \det A' \det B = 1 \text{ and } a^{l+1} = \overline{\det B}^l \right\}$$

for some $l \in \mathbb{Z}$. We have $\tilde{H} = H$ only in the case $k = l = 0$ as follows: For any matrix in $H \cap \tilde{H}$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \det \bar{A}' &= a \det B \Rightarrow a^{k+1} = a^k \det B^k \Rightarrow a = \det B^k \\ \det \bar{B} &= a \det A' \Rightarrow a^{l+1} = a^l \det A'^l \\ &\Rightarrow \det B^{k(l+1)} = \det \bar{B}^l \Rightarrow \det B^{k(l+1)+l} = 1 \\ &\Rightarrow k(l+1) + l = 0 \Rightarrow k = l = 0 \text{ because } k, l \in \mathbb{Z} \end{aligned}$$

giving the only primitive example in this case, a Grassmanian.

Now assume $n_1 = 2$, which by $n \geq 5$ implies $n_2 \geq 3$. Since $\text{corank}(\mathbf{H}) = 1$ (see lemma 1.7), we have $l_+ = 3$. If $\mathbf{K}_+/\mathbf{H} = \mathbb{S}^3$, we have $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{SU}(n_2)$. If $n_2 = 4$, we could again have $\mathbf{K}_-/\mathbf{H}_- = \mathbf{SO}(7)$, but there's no $\mathbf{SO}(7)$ or $\mathbf{Spin}(7)$ in $\mathbf{SU}(6)$. This shows $\mathbf{K}_- = \mathbf{U}(n-1)$, which is a case we treated before.

The next case is $n_1 = 3$ and $n_2 \geq 2$. But $n_2 > 2$ actually implies that the argument given in the beginning of this section applies as well, so we only need to deal with the case $n_2 = 2$. Then $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{S}_k^1\mathbf{SU}(2)\mathbf{SU}(2)$, where

$$\mathbf{S}_k^1 = \{\text{diag}(z^{2-2k}, z^k, z^k, \bar{z}, \bar{z}) \mid z \in \mathbf{S}^1\}$$

If $\mathbf{K}_-/\mathbf{H} = \mathbb{S}^5$, then again the argument above yields one primitive example (corresponding to $k = 1$ here). From the classification of transitive actions on a sphere and the fact that $\mathbf{SU}(2) \subset \mathbf{H}/\mathbf{H}_-$, we are left with 2 further possibilities: $\mathbf{K}_-/\mathbf{H}_- = \mathbf{SO}(5)$ and $\mathbf{K}_-/\mathbf{H}_- = \mathbf{SO}(4)$. In the first case we can deduce $\mathbf{K}_- = \mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{Sp}(2)$, which implies $k = -1$ and results in \mathbb{CP}^9 . In the latter case, we would have $\mathbf{SU}(2) \subset \mathbf{H}_-$, but there is no $\mathbf{SO}(4)$ or $\mathbf{Spin}(4) = \mathbf{SU}(2) \times \mathbf{SU}(2)$ in the normalizer $N(\mathbf{SU}(2))$ in $\mathbf{SU}(5)$.

The last case to consider is $n_1 > 3, n_2 = 2$. We will argue that there is no additional possibility to the one given at the beginning of this section. We have $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{SU}(n-3)\mathbf{SU}(2)$, and since $n-3 \geq 3$ we have $\mathbf{SU}(n-3) \subset \mathbf{H}_-$. But $N(\mathbf{SU}(n-3)) = \mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{SU}(3)$, so the only possibility is $\mathbf{SU}(3) \subset \mathbf{K}_-/\mathbf{H}_-$, which is the aforementioned argument.

- 4a) We assume $\mathbf{SU}(n_1)$ is the upper left, $\mathbf{SU}(n_2)$ the lower right block. Note that this determines the center \mathbf{T}^2 of \mathbf{K}_+ . By remark 1.9 and the fact that in this case \mathbf{K}_+ has 4 factors, we can assume $(\mathbf{H}_-)_0 = \mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{SU}(n_2)$ and therefore $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{T}^2\mathbf{SU}(n_1-1)\mathbf{SU}(n_2)$, where $\mathbf{SU}(n_1-1)$ is the upper left and $\mathbf{SU}(n_2)$ is the lower right block. If we assume $\mathbf{K}_- \simeq \mathbf{U}(n_1-1)\mathbf{U}(n_2+1)$ and $n_1 > 2$ then we know the resulting manifold will not be primitive for the following reason: $\mathbf{K}_- \hookrightarrow \mathbf{SU}(n)$ induces a 1-dimensional subrepresentation, which by the choice of \mathbf{K}_+ and \mathbf{H} is necessarily given by e_{n_1} or e_{n_1+1} . The first case implies $\mathbf{K}_\pm \subset \mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{SU}(n_1)\mathbf{SU}(n_2+1)$, and the second $\mathbf{K}_\pm \subset \mathbf{U}(n-1)$.

We divide the remainig cases:

- If $n_1 = 2$, then $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{T}^2\mathbf{SU}(n_2)$, and $\mathbf{H} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{SU}(n)$ induces 3 one-dimensional subrepresentations via the standard representation.

We know $K_- \simeq T^2SU(n_2 + 1)$, for which we only need to note that $T^2Sp(2)$ is not a subgroup of $SU(4)$ by table 15. Now $K_- \hookrightarrow SU(n)$ induces 2 one-dimensional subrepresentations, and if one of those is given by e_3 , we have $K_{\pm} \subset U(n - 1)$. But in the other case $K_{\pm} \subset S^1SU(2)SU(n - 2)$, so there is no primitive example in this case.

- We will now argue that indeed $K_- \simeq U(n_1 - 1)U(n_2 + 1)$ in all other cases. By primitivity we know $(H/H_-)_0 = S^1SU(n_2)$, so by the classification given in table 16 this is true for $n_1 \geq 3, n_2 \geq 3$. Having already dealt with the case $n_1 = 2$, we only need to consider $n_1 \geq 3, n_2 = 2$, but again we only need to note that $T^2Sp(2)SU(n_1 - 4)$ is not a subgroup of $SU(n)$ by table 15. This shows $K_- \simeq U(n_1 - 1)U(n_2 + 1)$ as desired, and we know that the manifold is not primitive by what was said above.

3b) If $SU(n - 2) \subset H_+$, we have $SU(n - 1) \subset K_-$ (remember that $n \geq 5$), so that $K_- \simeq U(n - 1)$, which was treated before. So now assume $SU(n - 2) \not\subset H_+$, which implies $H = T^2SU(n - 3)$. We distinguish the cases $SU(n - 3) \not\subset H_-$ and its opposite.

- If $SU(n - 3) \not\subset H_-$, we have $K_- \simeq K_+$. The factor $SU(n - 2)$ of K_- then has a 2-dimensional trivial subrepresentation when considered as a subgroup of $SU(n)$ which is necessarily given by $\mathbb{C}e_i \oplus \mathbb{C}e_j$ for $i, j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$:
 - * If $i = 1, j = 2$, we have $K_- = K_+$, so the example is not primitive.
 - * If $i = 1, j = 3$, we have $K_{\pm} \subset S(U(1)U(n - 1))$, so again this is not primitive
 - * If $i = 2, j = 3$, exchange the coordinates e_1 and e_2 , after which we are in the previous case again. Note that this exchange might change every group of the diagram, yet still shows that it is not primitive.
- If $SU(n - 3) \subset H_-$, we have $H/H_- \simeq S^1$, which implies K_-/H_- is one of $U(2), SO(3)$. In the first case $K_- \simeq S(U(2)U(n - 3))$, which was previously treated in case 4a. In the latter case, we have $K_- \simeq SO(3)U(n - 3)$, and we conjugate the whole diagram to make K_- standard: $SO(3)$ is the upper left block, $SU(n - 3)$ the lower right and S^1 is diagonally embedded, so it commutes with both $SO(3)$ and $SU(n - 3)$ but does not act trivially on any

of the $\mathbb{C}e_i$ for $i \in \{1 \dots, n\}$. We can assume H is then given by $S_1^1 S_2^1 \text{SU}(n-3)$ where

$$S_1^1 = \{\text{diag}(z_1, 1, \bar{z}_1, 1, \dots, 1) \mid z_1 \in S^1\}$$

and

$$S_2^1 = \{\text{diag}(\bar{z}_2^{n-3}, \bar{z}_2^{n-3}, \bar{z}_2^{n-3}, z_2^3, \dots, z_2^3) \mid z_2 \in S^1\}$$

Now $K_+ = S(\text{U}(1)\text{U}(1)\text{U}(n-2))$ is determined by $\text{SU}(n-2)$, which again has a 2-dimensional trivial subrepresentation when restricting the standard representation of $\text{SU}(n)$, which is necessarily given by $\mathbb{C}e_i \oplus \mathbb{C}e_j$ for $i, j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ and $i \neq j$. Note that the cases $i = 1, j = 2$ and $i = 2, j = 3$ are equivalent, and we claim this gives a (primitive) example. The last case $i = 1, j = 3$ does not give an example for K_+/H is not a sphere:

- * If $i = 1, j = 2$, an element of H that is also in $\text{SU}(n-2)$ satisfies $z_1 \bar{z}_2^{n-3} = 1$ and \bar{z}_2^{n-3} from the first two coordinates, which implies $z_1 = 1$ and so $\text{diag}(1, 1, 1, z_2^3, \dots, z_2^3) \in \text{SU}(n-3)$, which shows $\text{SU}(n-2) \cap H = \text{SU}(n-3)$, so $K_+/H = \text{SU}(n-2)/(\text{SU}(n-3))$ is a sphere.
- * If $i = 1, j = 3$, an element of H is in $\text{SU}(n-2)$ if and only if $z_1 \bar{z}_2^{n-3} = 1$ and $\bar{z}_1 \bar{z}_2^{n-3}$ from the first and the third coordinate. Choose any z_2 such that $z_2^{n-3} = -1$ and $z_1 = -1$, so that these equations are fulfilled. But then note that the second coordinate of this element is -1 , which shows that it is in $H \cap \text{SU}(n-2)$, but not in $\text{SU}(n-3)$. Therefore $K_+/H = \text{SU}(n-2)/(\text{SU}(n-2))$ is not a sphere.

7 $G = \text{SO}(2n+1)$, $n \geq 3$

Up to equivalence, the simply connected primitive cohomogeneity one $\text{SO}(2n+1)$ -manifolds ($n \geq 3$) are given by table 6.

The possibilities for K_+ are given by table 7.

If a group of complex matrices is involved (e.g. $\text{U}(n)$), we will deliberately use complex notation for the corresponding real matrices. In particular, for $e^{i\varphi} = z \in S^1$, we will use $\text{diag}(z, \dots, z)$ for the matrix containing

$\begin{pmatrix} \cos \varphi & \sin \varphi \\ -\sin \varphi & \cos \varphi \end{pmatrix}$ on the diagonal 2×2 -blocks and 0 everywhere else.

Table 6: $\mathrm{SO}(2n+1)$ -cohomogeneity one manifolds for $n > 2$

$\mathrm{SO}(2n-1) \subset \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2n-1), \mathrm{SO}(2n)$
$\mathrm{O}(2n-1) \subset \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2n-1), \mathrm{O}(2n)$
$\mathrm{SU}(3) \subset \mathrm{G}_2, \mathrm{U}(3), n = 3$
$\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SU}(3) \subset \mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{G}_2, \mathrm{U}(4), n = 4$
$\mathrm{SO}(2n_1+1)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2-1) \subset \mathrm{SO}(2n_1+2)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2-1), \mathrm{SO}(2n_1+1)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2)$ where $n_1 + n_2 = n$
$\mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2n-3) \subset \mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2n-3), \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2n-2)$
$\mathrm{SO}(2n_1-1)\mathrm{U}(n_2) \subset \mathrm{SO}(2n_1-1)\mathrm{U}(n_2+1), \mathrm{SO}(2n_1)\mathrm{U}(n_2)$ where $n_1 + n_2 = n$
$\mathrm{T}^2\mathrm{SU}(n-2) \subset \mathrm{SO}(3)\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SU}(n-2), \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{U}(n-1)$ where $\mathrm{S}^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(1, 1, 1, z, \dots, z)\}, \mathrm{T}^2 = \{\mathrm{diag}(1, z, z^2, 1, \dots, 1)\} \cdot \mathrm{S}^1$ and $\mathrm{SO}(3) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{SO}(5)$ is irreducible ($\mathrm{SO}(5)$ being the upper left block)

- 1a) We have $\mathrm{H} = \mathrm{SO}(2n-1)$. There are two possibilities for K_- , namely $\mathrm{K}_- \simeq \mathrm{SO}(2n)$ and $\mathrm{K}_- \simeq \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2n-1)$. The first choice does not lead to a primitive manifold, since K_- is conjugate to K_+ via the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} \cos \varphi & \sin \varphi & & \\ -\sin \varphi & \cos \varphi & & \\ & & & \\ & & & E_{2n-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

which is in $N(\mathrm{H})_0$. There is only one $\mathrm{SO}(2)$ in the normalizer of $\mathrm{SO}(2n-1)$, so the second choice leads to exactly one primitive manifold, a Grassmanian.

We do have $l_- = 0$ here, so K_+ might be non-connected. It is clear then that $\mathrm{H} = \mathbb{Z}_2\mathrm{SO}(2n-1) \simeq \mathrm{O}(2n-1)$ and $\mathrm{K}_+ = \mathbb{Z}_2\mathrm{SO}(2n) \simeq \mathrm{O}(2n)$. This is $\mathrm{SO}(2n+1)$ acting on $\mathbb{C}P^{2n}$.

- 2a) We can assume $\mathrm{H} = \mathrm{SO}(2n_1-1)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2)$, and it is clear that $\mathrm{K}_- \simeq \mathrm{SO}(2n_1-1)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2+1)$. There are two possibilities for $\mathrm{SO}(2n_2+1)$ in

Table 7: Possibilities for K_+

Factors	Subcase	Group	Conditions
1	1a	$\mathrm{SO}(2n)$	–
2	2a	$\mathrm{SO}(2n_1)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2)$	$n_1, n_2 \geq 3, n_1 + n_2 = n$
2	2b	$\mathrm{SO}(2n_1 + 1)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2)$	$n_2 \geq 2, n_2 + n_2 = n$
2	2c	$\mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2n - 2)$	$n \geq 4$
2	2d	$\mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2n - 1)$	–
2	2e	$\mathrm{U}(n)$	–
3	3a	$\mathrm{SO}(2n_1)\mathrm{U}(n_2)$	$n_1, n_2 \geq 2, n_1 + n_2 = n$
3	3b	$\mathrm{SO}(2n_1 + 1)\mathrm{U}(n_2)$	$n_2 \geq 2, n_1 + n_2 = n$
3	3c	$\mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{U}(n - 1)$	–
3	3d	$\mathrm{SO}(2n - 4)\mathrm{SO}(4)$	$n \geq 5$
3	3e	$\mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(4)$	$n = 3$
3	3f	$\mathrm{SO}(2n - 3)\mathrm{SO}(4)$	–
4	4a	$\mathrm{U}(n_1)\mathrm{U}(n_2)$	$n_1, n_2 \geq 2, n_1 + n_2 = n$
4	4b	$\mathrm{U}(n - 2)\mathrm{SO}(4)$	$n \geq 4$
4	4c	$\mathrm{SO}(4)\mathrm{SO}(4)$	$n = 4$

the normalizer of $\mathrm{SO}(2n_1 - 1)$, both of which are conjugate by a change of coordinate, which can be achieved by conjugation with a matrix similar to the one given in 1a, which is in $N(\mathbf{H})_0 = \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2n_1 - 1)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2)$. But it is obvious for at least one of the two possibilities that $K_{\pm} \subset \mathrm{SO}(2n)$.

- 2b) Since $\mathrm{corank}(\mathbf{H}) = 1$ by corollary 1.7, we have $\mathbf{H} = \mathrm{SO}(2n_1 - 1)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2 + 1)$, implying $K_- = \mathrm{SO}(2n_1 - 1)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2 + 2)$. This gives one primitive example, a Grassmanian.
- 2c) First assume $\mathbf{H} = \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2n - 3)$. Further assuming $K_-/\mathbf{H}_- = \mathrm{U}(2)$, we see $K_- \simeq \mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2n - 3)$. The choices for $\mathrm{U}(2)$ in the normalizer of $\mathrm{SO}(2n - 3)$ are given by the center, which is given by either $\{\mathrm{diag}(z, z, 1, \dots, 1) \mid z \in \mathbf{S}^1\}$ or $\{\mathrm{diag}(\bar{z}, z, 1, \dots, 1) \mid z \in \mathbf{S}^1\}$. But

complex conjugation of the first component in $\mathbb{T}^2 \subset \mathrm{SO}(4)$ is given by conjugation with $\mathrm{diag}(-1, 1, \dots, 1)$, which leaves \mathbf{H} invariant as well as \mathbf{K}_+ , so we only get one new example. It is the homogeneous space

$$\frac{\mathrm{SO}(2n+2)}{\mathrm{SO}(2n-2)\mathrm{U}(2)}$$

The next possibility is $\mathbf{K}_- \simeq \mathrm{SO}(3)\mathrm{SO}(2n-3)$, and again from checking the isotropy representation there are 2 choices for $\mathrm{SO}(3)$, but both are conjugate by a change of two coordinates, which is in $N(\mathbf{H})_0$ as in 1a. The result is not primitive.

If $\mathbf{H} = \mathbb{Z}_k \mathrm{SO}(2n-2)$, we have $\mathbf{K}_- = \mathbb{Z}_k \mathrm{SO}(2n-1)$. In the case that \mathbf{H} is connected, there are several choices for $\mathbf{K}_- = \mathrm{SO}(2n-1)$, but all of them are conjugate in $N(\mathbf{H})_0 = \mathrm{SO}(3)\mathrm{SO}(2n-2)$, and obviously not primitive. If \mathbf{H} is not connected, there's only one choice for $\mathrm{SO}(2n-1)$, but again $\mathbf{K}_\pm \subset \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2n-1)$.

- 2d) We only need to note $\mathrm{SO}(2n-1) \subset \mathbf{H}_+$, since $\mathrm{corank}(\mathbf{H}) = 1$ by corollary 1.7, which leads to $(\mathbf{K}_-)_0 = \mathrm{SO}(2n)$ which was treated in 1a.
- 2e) If $\mathrm{SU}(n) \subset \mathbf{H}_+$, then $n = 3$ or $n = 4$, because for $n \geq 5$ we would have $\mathrm{SU}(n+1) \subset \mathbf{K}_-$, but there is no embedding of $\mathrm{SU}(n+1) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{SO}(2n+1)$ (as seen easily from checking representations). If $n = 3$, there is the possibility that $\mathbf{H} = \mathrm{SU}(3)$ and $\mathbf{K}_- = \mathbf{G}_2$, giving one primitive example: It is primitive because \mathbf{K}_+ is maximal and does not contain \mathbf{K}_- or any of its conjugates, and we can see there is only one in the following way. We conjugate the diagram so that \mathbf{K}_- is a given, fixed subgroup of type \mathbf{G}_2 that contains the standard $\mathrm{SU}(3)$ lower right block. This already determines \mathbf{K}_+ as the centralizer of \mathbf{H} . Now if $n = 4$, we can have $\mathbf{H} = \mathrm{SU}(4)$ and $\mathbf{K}_- = \mathrm{Spin}(7)$, which is not primitive because $\mathbf{K}_\pm \subset \mathrm{SO}(8)$.

From now on we assume $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{S}_k^1 \mathrm{SU}(n-1)$, where

$$\mathbf{S}_k^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(1, z^{(k+1)(n-1)}, z^{-k}, \dots, z^{-k}) \mid z \in \mathbf{S}^1\}$$

and $\mathrm{SU}(n-1)$ is in the lower right block.

First assume $k = -1$. We have $N(\mathbf{H})_0 = \mathrm{SO}(3)\mathrm{SU}(n-1)$. If $\mathbf{K}_- \simeq \mathrm{U}(n)$, there are several choices, but all of them can be conjugated into $\mathrm{SO}(2n)$ by a simple change of coordinates, which is in $N(\mathbf{H})_0$, so there's no primitive example. We cannot have $\mathrm{SU}(n-1) \subset \mathbf{H}_-$, but $\mathbf{S}^1 \not\subset \mathbf{H}_-$,

since there are no subgroups in $N(\mathrm{SU}(n-1))$ of type $\mathrm{U}(2)$, $\mathrm{SO}(3)$, $\mathrm{SU}(2)$ containing S_k^1 . Lastly $\mathrm{U}(n-1) \subset \mathrm{H}_-$ implies $\mathrm{K}_- \simeq \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{U}(n-1)$, and again conjugation in $N(\mathrm{H})_0$ leads to $\mathrm{K}_- \subset \mathrm{K}_+$.

Now for $k \neq -1$ we have $N(\mathrm{H})_0 = \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{U}(n-1)$. If $\mathrm{K}_- \simeq \mathrm{U}(n)$ there are two choices for embedding $\mathrm{U}(n)$, but both are in $\mathrm{SO}(2n)$ as well as K_+ . We cannot have $\mathrm{H} = \mathrm{H}_-$, because $N(\mathrm{H})_0 \subset \mathrm{U}(n)$, so we would not get a primitive manifold. For the same reasons as before, $\mathrm{SU}(n-1) \subset \mathrm{H}_-$, but $\mathrm{S}_k^1 \not\subset \mathrm{H}_-$ is not possible. If $\mathrm{H}_- = \mathrm{S}^1$, we have $n = 4$ and $\mathrm{K}_- = \mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{G}_2$ or $n = 5$ and $\mathrm{K}_- = \mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{Spin}(7)$, for there is no embedding $\mathrm{SU}(n+1) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{SO}(2n+1)$. In the latter case $\mathrm{K}_\pm \subset \mathrm{SO}(10)$, so the result is not primitive. The first case results in one primitive example: K_+ is maximal and does not contain any conjugate of K_- , so it's primitive, and we can see it's the only example in the same way as the beginning of the section: Conjugating K_-, H in a standard form determines K_+ uniquely.

- 3a) If $\mathrm{H} = \mathrm{SO}(2n_1-1)\mathrm{U}(n_2)$, it is clear that $\mathrm{K}_- \simeq \mathrm{SO}(2n_1-1)\mathrm{U}(n_2+1)$, and there are 2 choices for embedding K_- into $\mathrm{SO}(2n+1)$ while containing H , corresponding to the embedding of the additional coordinate of its center over the one of H . Both are conjugate by

$$\mathrm{diag}(\underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_{2n_1-1}, -1, \underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_{2n_2+2})$$

where we assume that $\mathrm{U}(n_2)$ is embedded as the lower right block, and $\mathrm{SO}(2n_1-1)$ in the upper left. This conjugation is not in $N(\mathrm{H})_0 = \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{H}$, but restricted to K_- it is the same as conjugation with

$$\mathrm{diag}(\underbrace{-1, \dots, -1}_{2n_1-1}, -1, \underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_{2n_2+2})$$

which is in $\mathrm{SO}(2n_1)$ and leaves both K_+ and H invariant. So we only obtain one example, which is primitive, because K_- is a maximal subgroup of maximal rank not containing and not contained in K_+ (and not isomorphic to it). This is the homogeneous space

$$\frac{\mathrm{SO}(2n+2)}{\mathrm{SO}(2n_1)\mathrm{U}(n_2+1)}$$

The second possibility is $\mathrm{H} = \mathrm{SO}(2n_1)\mathrm{U}(n_2-1)_k$ (where $\mathrm{U}(n_2-1)_k = \mathrm{S}_k^1\mathrm{SU}(n_2-1)$ similar to 2a). It is clear that $\mathrm{K}_- \simeq \mathrm{SO}(2n_1+1)\mathrm{U}(n_2-1)_k$,

and for $k \neq -1$ there is just one possibility for that, which is not primitive, for $K_{\pm} \subset \mathrm{SO}(2n_1 + 1)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2)$. If $k = -1$, there are actually 3 possibilities, but all again differ only by a change of coordinates, which can be done in $N(H)_0 = \mathrm{SO}(3)H$, so again no primitive example arises.

- 3b) We cannot have $H_+ = \mathrm{U}(n_2)$, for that would imply $\mathrm{SO}(2n_1)\mathrm{U}(n_2 + 1) \subset K_-$, but this can't be embedded into $\mathrm{SO}(2n + 1)$. Also, $H_+ \neq \mathbb{Z}_k\mathrm{SU}(n_2)$ for any k , because $\mathrm{SO}(2n_1 + 1)\mathrm{SU}(n_2)$ is not isotropy group of any almost effective transitive action on a sphere.

So we have $H = \mathrm{SO}(2n_1 + 1)\mathrm{U}(n_2 - 1)_k$ (see 3b for notation), and therefore $\mathrm{SO}(2n_1 + 2) \subset K_-$ is in the normalizer of $\mathrm{U}(n_2 - 1)_k$, which is only possible for $k = -1$. If $k = -1$, we have 2 possibilities for K_- , both conjugate by a change of coordinates, which is in $N(H)_0 = \mathrm{SO}(2)H$. We are left with $K_- = \mathrm{SO}(2n_1 + 2)\mathrm{U}(n_2 - 1)$, which is primitive as shown in 3a.

- 3c) First suppose $\mathrm{SU}(n - 1) \subset H_+$. This implies $\mathrm{SU}(n) \subset K_-$ by primitivity and the classification of transitive actions on spheres. Therefore $(K_-)_0 \simeq \mathrm{U}(n)$, which is contained in case 2e. From now on we assume $\mathrm{SU}(n - 1) \not\subset H_+$.

By remark 1.9 we can deduce $H_0 = \mathrm{T}^2\mathrm{SU}(n - 2)$. Suppose $\mathrm{SU}(n - 2) \not\subset H_-$ (note that this implies $n > 3$). Then $K_-/H_- \simeq \mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SU}(n - 1)$. Now we can deduce $K_{\pm} \subset \mathrm{SO}(2n)$ as follows: All irreducible real representations of K_{\pm} and H are even-dimensional, so there is at least one 1-dimensional trivial representation given by the embedding $K_- \hookrightarrow \mathrm{SO}(2n + 1)$, which of course stays trivial when restricted to H . If the embedding $H \hookrightarrow \mathrm{SO}(2n + 1)$ induces only one such representation, then this is necessarily the same as the one for K_+ , which shows the claim. If $H \hookrightarrow \mathrm{SO}(2n + 1)$ induces three trivial 1-dimensional representations, then $N(H)_0 \supset \mathrm{SO}(3)$, and we may again assume $K_- \subset \mathrm{SO}(2n)$ by section 1.2.

Now we are left with the case $H = \mathrm{T}^2\mathrm{SU}(n - 2)$ and $\mathrm{SU}(n - 2) \subset H_-$, which implies $l_- = 2$ or $l_- = 3$. We divide cases by the possibilities for K_- :

- Suppose $l_- = 2$, $K_- \simeq \mathrm{SO}(3)\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SU}(n - 2)$ and $\mathrm{SO}(3) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{SO}(2n + 1)$ is irreducible in $\mathrm{SO}(5) \subset N(\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SU}(n - 2))$. We note that $\mathrm{SO}(2) \subset \mathrm{SO}(3)$ has weights 1 and 2 in $\mathrm{SO}(5)$ in this case, and therefore we have $H = \mathrm{S}_1^1\mathrm{S}_2^1\mathrm{SU}(n - 2)$, where $\mathrm{SU}(n - 2)$ is the lower right block and

$$\begin{aligned} S_1^1 &= \{\text{diag}(1, z, z^2, 1, \dots, 1) \mid z \in S^1\} \\ S_2^1 &= \{\text{diag}(\underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_5, \underbrace{z, \dots, z}_{n-2}) \mid z \in S^1\} \end{aligned}$$

This yields one primitive example.

- If $l_- = 2$, $K_- \simeq \text{SO}(3)S^1\text{SU}(n-2)$ and $\text{SO}(3) \hookrightarrow \text{SO}(5) \subset N(\text{SU}(n-2))$ has a trivial 2-dimensional subrepresentation, then we can re-conjugate the diagram to achieve $H = S_1^1 S_2^1 \text{SU}(n-2)$ where $\text{SU}(n-2)$ is the lower right block and

$$\begin{aligned} S_1^1 &= \{\text{diag}(1, z, 1, \dots, 1) \mid z \in S^1\} \\ S_2^1 &= \{\text{diag}(1, 1, 1, z^{l_2}, z^{k_2}, \dots, z^{k_2}) \mid z \in S^1\} \end{aligned}$$

where $l_2, k_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$. The trivial 1-dimensional subrepresentation of $K_+ \hookrightarrow \text{SO}(2n+1)$ is then necessarily given by $\mathbb{R}e_1$, which shows $K_{\pm} \subset \text{SO}(3)\text{U}(n-2)$, and there is no primitive example in this case.

- If $l_- = 2$ and $K_- \simeq \text{SU}(2)S^1\text{SU}(n-2)$, we have $K_{\pm} \subset \text{SO}(2n)$ by the same reasoning that we used in the first paragraph of this case.
- If $l_- = 3$, then $K_- \simeq \text{U}(2)\text{U}(n-2)$ and again $K_{\pm} \subset \text{SO}(2n)$ by the same reasoning that we used in the first paragraph of this case.

3d-f) All these are subject to the considerations in 2a and 2b, since the corank of H in G is 1 by corollary 1.7, so that K_+/H is not S^2 .

4a) We can assume $H = T^2\text{SU}(n_1-1)\text{SU}(n_2)$ and therefore $K_- \simeq T^2\text{SU}(n_1-1)\text{SU}(n_2+1)$. We will identify K_- via its center. It has to commute with $\text{SU}(n_1-1)\text{SU}(n_2)$, so we need to look at embeddings $S^1 \hookrightarrow \text{SO}(3)$, all of which are conjugate in $\text{SO}(3)$ up to complex conjugation. But this implies that $K_{\pm} \subset \text{SO}(2n)$ after conjugating K_- with an element of $N(H)_0$, which contains the $\text{SO}(3)$ in question.

4a-b) Again, we have $\text{corank}(H) = 1$ by corollary 1.7, so in particular $K_+/H \neq S^2$. All the other cases have been treated before.

Table 8: $\text{Spin}(2n + 1)$ -cohomogeneity one manifolds for $n > 2$

$S_k^1 \text{SU}(2) \subset \text{U}(3), \text{SO}(2)\text{SO}(5), n = 3$ where $S_k^1 = \{\text{diag}(z^2, z^k, z^k, 1)\}, k = 1, -3$ and $\text{SU}(2)$ acts trivially on $\mathbb{R}e_1, \mathbb{R}e_2, \mathbb{R}e_7$
$\text{SU}(3) \subset \text{G}_2, \text{SO}(6), n = 3$
$\text{SU}(3) \subset \text{G}_2, \text{U}(3), n = 3$
$\text{SU}(2)S_{\mathbb{H}}^1 \text{SU}(2) \subset \text{U}(2)\text{SO}(5), \text{SO}(5)\text{U}(2), n = 4$ where $S_{\mathbb{H}}^1 = \{\text{diag}(z^{l_1}, z^{l_1}, 1, z^{l_2}, z^{l_2})\}$ and $l_1 = 2, l_2 = 1$ or $l_1 = 1 = l_2$.

7.1 $\text{G} = \text{Spin}(2n + 1), n \geq 3$

Up to equivalence, the simply connected primitive cohomogeneity one $\text{Spin}(2n + 1)$ -manifolds ($n \geq 3$) are given by table 8.

The possibilities for K_+ are given by table 9.

- 1a) Transferring the diagram in to $\text{SO}(7)$, we know that $(\text{H})_0$ is not $\text{SO}(5)$ because the action of $\text{Spin}(7)$ is effective. This implies $\text{H} = \text{SU}(3)$. We know K_-/H is a sphere or a real projective space, but there is no embedding $\text{SU}(4) \hookrightarrow \text{SO}(7)$, so $\text{K}_- = \text{G}_2$. Since all embeddings $\text{G}_2 \hookrightarrow \text{SO}(7)$ are conjugate, we can choose on such that $\text{SU}(3) \subset \text{G}_2$ acts trivially on e_1 , which in turn completely determines K_+ , so we actually get one example here. It is primitive, because K_+ is a maximal subgroup of maximal rank and there is no embedding $\text{K}_- \hookrightarrow \text{K}_+$.
- 2a) We transfer the whole situation into $\text{SO}(9)$ and have $\text{K}_+ = \text{S}^1\text{SO}(6)$ and $\text{H} = \text{S}^1\text{SU}(3)$, where we can write $\text{S}^1 = \{\text{diag}(1, z^l, z^k, \dots, z^k) \mid z \in \text{S}^1\}$. But K_+/H being a projective space implies $\text{SO}(6) \cap \text{H} = \text{SU}(3)$, which can be written as

$$\text{SO}(6) \cap \text{H} = \{\text{diag}(1, z^l, z^k, z^k, z^k) \cdot A \mid A \in \text{SU}(3), z^l = 1\}$$

so that $z^{3k} = 1$ whenever $z^l = 1$, which implies that l divides $3k$. But $\text{gcd}(k, l) = 1$, and by reparametrisation we can assume $l = 1, 3$. We now divide cases by $(\text{H}_-)_0$:

- If $(\text{H}_-)_0 = \text{SU}(3)$, we know K_-/H_- is $\text{U}(2)$ or $\text{SO}(3)$. But the normalizer $N(\text{SU}(3)) = \text{SO}(3)\text{S}^1$ does not contain $\text{SU}(2)$, and

Table 9: Possibilities for K_+

Factors	Subcase	Group	Conditions
1	1a	$\text{Spin}(6)$	$n = 3$
2	2a	$\text{Spin}(2)\text{Spin}(6)$	$n = 4$
2	2b	$\text{Spin}(6)\text{Spin}(6)$	$n = 6$
2	2c	$\text{Spin}(2)\text{Spin}(5)$	$n = 3$
2	2d	$\text{Spin}(5)\text{Spin}(6)$	$n = 5$
2	2e	$\hat{\text{U}}(n)$	—
3	3a	$\hat{\text{U}}(n-3)\text{Spin}(6)$	$n \geq 5$
3	3b	$\hat{\text{U}}(n-2)\text{Spin}(5)$	$n \geq 4$
3	3c	$\text{Spin}(2)\hat{\text{U}}(n-1)$	—
4	4a	$\hat{\text{U}}(n_1)\hat{\text{U}}(n_2)$	$n_1, n_2 \geq 1, n_1 + n_2 = n$

$\text{K}_-/\text{H}_- = \text{SO}(3)$ implies $k = 0$, in which case we have that $\text{H} \hookrightarrow \text{SO}(9)$ is surjective on the fundamental group, a contradiction.

- If $(\text{H}_-)_0 = \text{S}^1$, we have $N(\text{S}^1) = \text{S}^1\text{U}(3)$ for $k \neq 1$, so we will not get a primitive example in this case. If $k = 1$, we have $N(\text{S}^1) = \text{U}(4)$, but both K_\pm are contained in $\text{SO}(8)$, so again no primitive example can be found here.
- If H_- is finite, we have $\text{K}_- = \text{S}^1\text{SU}(4)$ or $\text{K}_- = \text{S}^1\text{SO}(6)$, but in both cases $\text{K}_\pm \subset \text{SO}(8)$ again, a contradiction to primitivity.

2b) Again, by virtue of $-1 \in \text{K}_+ \setminus \text{H}$ we look at the situation in $\text{SO}(13)$. We have $\text{SO}(6) \subset \text{H}_+$, and therefore $l_\pm > 1$, so that all of K_\pm, H are connected. But $\text{SO}(6) \subset \text{H}$ implies that $\text{SO}(13)/\text{H}$ is simply connected, a contradiction, because $\text{Spin}(13)/(\pi^{-1}(\text{H}))_0$ is a nontrivial cover.

2c) We transfer the discussion to $\text{SO}(7)$. Then we have $\text{H} = \text{S}^1\text{SU}(2)$, where $\text{S}^1 = \{\text{diag}(z^l, z^k, z^k, 1) \mid z \in \text{S}^1\}$ (where $(k, l) = 1$) and $\text{SU}(2)$ is given accordingly. We have $\text{SO}(5)/\text{SU}(2) = \mathbb{R}P^7$ so that $\text{SO}(5) \cap \text{H} = \text{SU}(2)$, so that $z^{2k} = 1$ whenever $z^l = 1$, implying that l divides $2k$. But $(k, l) = 1$, so that l divides 2, and therefore $l = \pm 1, \pm 2$. But the image of $\pi_1(\text{S}^1) \rightarrow \pi_1(\text{SO}(7))$ is given by $l \bmod 2 \in \mathbb{Z}_2$, implying $l = 2$ (if $l = \pm 1$, $\text{SO}(7)/\text{H}$ is simply connected, a contradiction as before) and k

is odd. We assume $l = 2$ (possibly reparametrizing S^1) and divide cases by $(H_-)_0$:

- If $H_- = H$, we have $K_- \subset N(H)$ and $N(H)_0 = T^2SU(2) \subset K_+$, a contradiction to primitivity.
- If $(H_-)_0 = S^1$, we have $N(S^1) = T^2SU(2) \subset K_+$ as before, a contradiction.
- If $(H_-)_0 = SU(2)$, we have $N(SU(2)) = S^1SU(2)SO(3)$. Since $H/H_- = S^1$, we have $K_-/H_- = U(2)$ or $SO(3)$. But the only $SU(2)$ in $N(H_-)$ is also in H_- , and the $SO(3)$ -factor does not contain S^1 , so there's no example in this case either.
- If H_- is finite, we have either $K_- \simeq U(3)$ or $K_- \simeq SO(2)SO(5)$, where the second case of course does not give a primitive manifold. $SU(3)$ is determined by H , and the center of K_- is determined by H up to the first coordinate. It is either given by $\{\text{diag}(z, z, z)\}$ or $\{\text{diag}(\bar{z}, z, z)\}$. But conjugation of the first coordinate fixes both K_+ and H , so we can assume K_- is the standard upper left block. Since $U(3) \hookrightarrow SO(7)$ is surjective on the fundamental group, $\pi^{-1}(U(3))$ is connected and contains -1 , so that K_-/H is a projective space. Now $SU(3) \cap H = SU(2)$, which implies $k = 1$ or $k = -3$ (note that $SU(3) \cap H/SU(2) = \mathbb{Z}_2$ and that $z = \pm 1$ gives elements of $SU(2)$). Those are obviously two primitive examples.

2d) This follows the exact same reasoning of case 2b above, and does not give a primitive example.

2e) Since $-1 \in K_+$, again we transfer the situation to $SO(2n+1)$. We have either $SU(n) \not\subset H_+$ or $n = 3$ and $H = SU(3), K_- \simeq G_2$, or $n = 4$ and $H = SU(4), K_- \simeq \text{Spin}(7)$, since otherwise $SU(n+1) \subset K_-$, but there is no embedding $SU(n+1) \hookrightarrow \text{Spin}(2n+1)$. The last case is not primitive, because obviously $K_\pm \subset SO(8)$. The second case gives one primitive example (K_+ is maximal and does not contain a group isomorphic to K_- , so it is primitive; since H uniquely determines K_+ , there is only one). Note that since $l_+ = 1$, components may occur, but the normalizer of G_2 is just the nontrivial element that maps to the identity in $SO(7)$, so this will just produce an example of $SO(7)$.

From now on assume $H = S_k^1SU(n-1)$ where

$$S_k^1 = \{(\text{diag}(1, z^{(k+2)(n-1)}, z^{-k}, \dots, z^{-k}) \mid z \in S^1\}$$

and k is odd (see section B.0.2). This implies $N(H)_0 = T^2SU(n-1) \subset K_+$, so that $H \neq H_-$ and $l_- > 1$. Also, $N(SU(n-1))_0 = SO(3)U(n-1)$, but the $SO(3)$ -factor does not contain S^1_k , so in fact $l_- > 2$. Looking at both normalizers and checking against the list of effective transitive sphere actions (16) we also see $l_- > 3$. For $n \geq 6$, this implies $K_- \simeq U(n)$, but it is already determined by S^1_k (note that k cannot be -2), so that $K_{\pm} \subset SO(2n)$ and no primitive example arises in this case.

If $n \leq 5$, there are four additional possibilities for K_- , two coming from the accidental isomorphisms $Sp(2) \simeq Spin(5)$ and $SU(4) \simeq Spin(6)$. They have already been considered in 2c and 2a respectively. For $n = 4$, there is the possibility that $K_- \simeq S^1G_2$. This is not possible since $k \neq 0$ implies that S^1 is not in the normalizer of G_2 . For $n = 5$ we can have $K_- \simeq S^1Spin(7)$, but k is odd so S^1 does not commute with $Spin(7) \subset SO(8)$.

- 3a) We have $-1 \in K_+$, so we transfer the situation to $SO(2n+1)$ again. We cannot have $SO(6) \subset H$, for that would imply that $SO(2n+1)/H$ is simply connected. But then $SU(n-3) \subset H_+$, because $SO(6) \times SU(n-3)$ can not act transitively almost effectively on a projective space. Now also $SO(5) \not\subset H$ for the same reasons as above, so we actually have $H = SU(3)S^1SU(n-3)$. Since K_- can not contain $SU(3)SU(n-2)$ (which has no embedding into $SO(2n+1)$), we have that $SU(n-3)$ is contained in the isotropy group of an almost effective transitive action on a sphere of a group that does not contain $SU(n-2)$ as a transitively acting factor. This implies $n = 5$ or $n = 6$.

If $n = 5$, we have $K_- = SU(3)S^1SO(5)$ (note that $SO(5)/SU(2)$ is a projective space and $Spin(5) = Sp(2)$), but $SO(5)$ is determined by $SU(3)$ and $SU(2)$, and it's easy to see $K_{\pm} \subset SO(6)SO(5)$, so that this is not primitive.

If $n = 6$, we have $H = SU(3)S^1SU(3)$ and the above reasoning implies $K_- = SU(3)S^1SO(6)$, but again $K_{\pm} \subset SO(6)SO(6)$.

- 3b) Again, we look at the image of the diagram in $SO(2n+1)$ and have $K_+ = U(n-2)SO(5)$. We have $SO(5) \not\subset H$ (because G/H is not simply connected), so $SU(n-2) \subset H_-$, which implies $H = SU(n-2)\tilde{S}^1SU(2)$. Now $SU(n-1)SU(2) \subset K_-$ is a contradiction (we can see there is no such embedding into $SO(2n+1)$ by looking at the dimensions of representations), and since $SU(n-2) \subset H_-$ we have $n = 4$ or $n = 5$. But $n = 5$ implies $K_- \simeq SU(2)S^1SO(6)$, which does not give a primitive example by 3a).

So we are left with $n = 4$, and $K_- = \mathrm{SU}(2)\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SO}(5)$. We know $\tilde{\mathrm{S}}^1 \subset \mathrm{H}$ commutes with both $\mathrm{SU}(2)$ -factors, so it is of the form

$$\tilde{\mathrm{S}}^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(z^{l_1}, z^{l_1}, 1, z^{l_2}, z^{l_2}) \mid z \in \mathrm{S}^1\}$$

for some $l_1, l_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $(l_1, l_2) = 1$. Since complex conjugation on $\mathrm{U}(2)$ can be realized by a matrix in $\mathrm{SO}(4)$, we can re-conjugate the diagram so that $l_1, l_2 \geq 0$, without changing K_\pm . Now since K_+/H is a projective space, we know $\mathrm{SO}(5) \cap \mathrm{H} = \mathrm{SU}(2)$, so we know that $z^{l_1} = \pm 1$ for all z that satisfy $z^{l_2} = 1$, i.e. $l_2 \mid 2l_1$. But l_1, l_2 are coprime, so $l_2 \mid 2$, so $l_2 = 1$ or $l_2 = 2$. By symmetry reasons (K_- is a conjugate of K_+ by just exchanging the first 4 coordinates with the last 4), also $l_1 = 1$ or $l_1 = 2$. Exchanging K_+ and K_- does not change the manifold by section 1.2, we can assume $l_1 \geq l_2$ and are left with 2 examples. Since exchanging the first 4 coordinates with the last 4 is not in the unity component of the normalizer of H (all automorphisms in $N(\mathrm{H})_0$ are inner), those 2 examples are primitive.

- 3c) Since $-1 \in K_+$, we translate the situation to $\mathrm{SO}(2n+1)$. First assume $\mathrm{SU}(n-1) \subset \mathrm{H}_+$. This implies $K_- \simeq \mathrm{U}(n)$, so no primitive example arises. Note that H/H_- contains $\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SU}(n-1)$, which also excludes the cases $n = 3$ and $K_- \supset \mathrm{Sp}(2)$ and $n = 4$ and $K_- \supset \mathrm{SO}(6)$.

So now assume $\mathrm{H} = \mathrm{T}^2\mathrm{SU}(n-2)$. We have $\mathrm{S}^1 \subset \mathrm{H}/\mathrm{H}_-$, so either $\mathrm{H}/\mathrm{H}_- = \mathrm{S}^1$ or $\mathrm{H}/\mathrm{H}_- = \mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SU}(n-2)$. The latter case just implies $K_- \simeq K_+$, which does not give a primitive example for the following reason: Note that if all of H, K_\pm have a trivial one-dimensional subrepresentation from their inclusion into $\mathrm{SO}(2n+1)$, these are necessarily the same, so $K_\pm \subset \mathrm{SO}(2n)$. Otherwise H has three one-dimensional trivial subrepresentations, and then $\mathrm{SO}(3) \subset N(\mathrm{H})_0$, which includes the change of coordinate which allows us to assume K_\pm act trivial on the same one-dimensional subspace, and $K_\pm \subset \mathrm{SO}(2n)$ as before.

So we know $\mathrm{H}/\mathrm{H}_- = \mathrm{S}^1$, and we divide cases by $l_- = 3$ and $l_- = 2$:

- If $l_- = 2$, then K_-/H_- is either $\mathrm{SO}(3)$ or $\mathrm{SU}(2)$. The first case would imply that $\mathrm{Spin}(3) \subset (\pi^{-1}(K_-))_0$ acts on the sphere S^{l_-} , but $-1 \in \mathrm{Spin}(3)$ has to act trivial, a contradiction. In the second case K_- has a trivial 1-dimensional subrepresentation as a subgroup of $\mathrm{SO}(2n+1)$, which is necessarily given by $\mathbb{R}e_1$ (because we have $\mathrm{SU}(2) \subset N(\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SU}(n-2))$), so this is not a primitive example.

- If $l_- = 3$, we have $K_-/H_- = U(2)$, so that $K_- = T^2SU(2)SU(n-2)$. First assume that H as a subgroup of $SO(2n+1)$ has exactly one 1-dimensional trivial subrepresentation. This is necessarily $\mathbb{R}e_1$, and the same is true for K_- , which also has exactly one 1-dimensional trivial subrepresentation on which H need to act trivially, too. The other possibility is that H has three 1-dimensional trivial subrepresentations, but then $N(H)_0 \supset SO(3)SU(n-2)$ and so by conjugation in $N(H)_0$ we can assume that K_- acts trivially on $\mathbb{R}e_1$, again a contradiction to primitivity.

4a) Just as in 4a) of case $G = SO(2n+1)$, no primitive example can arise in this case. The proof carries over verbatim by transferring the situation to $SO(2n+1)$.

8 $G = Sp(n)$, $n \geq 2$

We claim that for $n > 1$ the simply connected primitive cohomogeneity one $Sp(n)$ -manifolds with positive euler characteristic are given by table 10. Note that we will not treat $Sp(2) \simeq Spin(5)$ the way we deal with the spin groups as described in section 3.1, but just follow the procedure for the non- $Spin$ groups.

The possibilities for K_+ are given by table 11.

- 2a) If $n \neq 2$, $SU(n)$ cannot be contained in the kernel, for that would mean $SU(n) \subset K_- \cap H$ would act almost effectively on K_-/H , so that $SU(n+1) \subset K_-$. But there's no embedding of $SU(n+1) \hookrightarrow Sp(n)$ save the case $n = 1$, which is not included here. This is easily seen by looking at the dimensions of representations.

So assume $SU(n) \not\subset H_+$. Now we know H is given by $S_k^1 SU(n-1)$ where S_k^1 is given by

$$S_k^1 = \{\text{diag}(z^{(k+1)(n-1)}, z^{-k}, \dots, z^{-k}) \mid z \in S^1\}$$

The unity component of the normalizer of H in $Sp(n)$ is given by either $Sp(1)U(n-1)$ (for $k = -1$) or $S^1 S_k^1 SU(n-1)$ (for $k \neq -1$), where S^1 is the standard one in the left upper $Sp(1)$ block. Let's first assume $K_- \neq U(n)$. For $k = -1$, we can have $K_- = Sp(1)U(n-1)$, giving a primitive manifold. There's also the case $K_- = S^1 H$, where by conjugation in $N(H)_0$ we can assume $S^1 \subset K_-$ is standard. But this is not primitive,

Table 10: $\mathrm{Sp}(n)$ -cohomogeneity one manifolds for $n > 1$

$\mathrm{Sp}(n_1 - 1)\mathrm{Sp}(n_2) \subset \mathrm{Sp}(n_1 - 1)\mathrm{Sp}(n_2 + 1), \mathrm{Sp}(n_1)\mathrm{Sp}(n_2)$
$\mathrm{Sp}(n - 2)\Delta\mathrm{Sp}(1) \subset \mathrm{Sp}(n - 2)\mathrm{SO}(2)\Delta\mathrm{Sp}(1), \mathrm{Sp}(n - 1)\mathrm{Sp}(1)$ where $\Delta\mathrm{Sp}(1)$ is the diagonal $\mathrm{Sp}(1)$ in the upper left $\mathrm{Sp}(2)$ -block and $\mathrm{SO}(2)$ is the standard $\mathrm{SO}(2)$ in this same block
$\mathbb{Z}_2\Delta\mathrm{Sp}(1) \subset \mathrm{SO}(2)\Delta\mathrm{Sp}(1), \mathbb{Z}_2\mathrm{Sp}(1)\mathrm{Sp}(1), n = 2$ where \mathbb{Z}_2 is generated by $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathrm{SO}(2)$ and $\Delta\mathrm{Sp}(1)$ are as above
$S^1\mathrm{Sp}(n - 2) \subset \mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{Sp}(n - 2), S^1\mathrm{Sp}(n - 1)$ where $S^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(z, \bar{z}^2, 1, \dots, 1)\}$ or $\{\mathrm{diag}(z, 1, \dots, 1)\}$
$\mathrm{U}(n_1)\mathrm{Sp}(n_2 - 1) \subset \mathrm{U}(n_1 + 1)\mathrm{Sp}(n_2 - 1), \mathrm{U}(n_1)\mathrm{Sp}(n_2), n_1 + n_2 = n$
$S^1_{\mathrm{H}}\mathrm{Sp}(n - 2) \subset \mathrm{Sp}(1)\mathrm{Sp}(n - 2), S^1\mathrm{Sp}(n - 1)$ where $S^1_{\mathrm{H}} = \{\mathrm{diag}(z, z^3, 1, \dots, 1)\}$ and $\mathrm{Sp}(1) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{Sp}(2)$ (upper left block) given by the irreducible $\mathrm{SO}(3) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{SO}(5)$
$T^2_{\mathrm{H}}\mathrm{Sp}(n - 3) \subset S^1\mathrm{SO}'(3)\mathrm{Sp}(n - 3), T^2\mathrm{Sp}(n - 2)$ where $S^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(z, z, z, 1, \dots, 1)\}$, $T^2_{\mathrm{H}} = \{\mathrm{diag}(1, z, \bar{z}, 1, \dots, 1)\} \cdot S^1$ and $\mathrm{SO}'(3)$ is the conjugation of the standard upper left $\mathrm{SO}(3)$ -block by $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & i \\ 0 & 1 & -i \end{pmatrix}$

for $K_- \subset K_+$. For $k \neq -1$ there's only the case $S^1\mathrm{H}$ where S^1 is standard, which isn't primitive.

If $K_- \simeq \mathrm{U}(n)$, we can determine the embedding via the center as in case 2a) of section 9, which also leads to $K_- = \bar{\mathrm{U}}(n)$ as the only primitive possibility, which only works in the cases $k = -1$ or $k = 0$. But $\hat{\mathrm{U}}(n) = \sigma(\mathrm{U}(n))$ where σ is conjugation by $\mathrm{diag}(j, 1, \dots, 1) \in N(\mathrm{H})_0$ for $k = -1, 0$, so no primitive manifold arises.

Table 11: Possibilities for K_+

Factors	Group	Conditions
2	$U(n)$	–
2	$Sp(n_1)Sp(n_2)$	$n_1 + n_2 = n$
2	$S^1Sp(n-1)$	–
2	T^2	$n = 2$
3	$U(n_1)Sp(n_2)$	$n_1 > 1, n_1 + n_2 = n$
3	$S^1U(n-1)$	$n \geq 3$
3	$S^1Sp(n_1)Sp(n_2)$	$n_1 + n_2 + 1 = n$
3	$Sp(1)Sp(n_1)Sp(n_2)$	$n_1 + n_2 + 1 = n$
3	$T^2Sp(n-2)$	$n \geq 3$
4	$U(n_1)U(n_2)$	$n_1, n_2 > 1, n_1 + n_2 = n$
4	$Sp(1)Sp(n_1)Sp(1)Sp(n_2)$	$n_1, n_2 \geq 1, n \geq 4$
4	$Sp(1)Sp(n_1)S^1Sp(n_2)$	$n_1, n_2 \geq 1, n \geq 4$
4	$T^2Sp(n_1)Sp(n_2)$	$n_1, n_2 \geq 1, n \geq 4$
4	$Sp(1)Sp(n_1)U(n_2)$	$n_1 \geq 1, n_2 \geq 2, n \geq 4$
4	$S^1Sp(n_1)U(n_2)$	$n_1 \geq 1, n_2 \geq 2, n \geq 4$

Lastly assume $SU(n) \subset H_+$ which implies $n = 2$ as said above. Since now $H_0 = SU(2)$ and there's no embedding of $SU(3)$ into $Sp(2)$, we have $(K_-)_0 \simeq Sp(1)Sp(1)$. We re-conjugate the diagram so that $(K_-)_0$ is standard, and $(H)_0 = \Delta Sp(1)$ is diagonal. This already determines the maximal subgroup of maximal rank $K_+ = S^1\Delta Sp(1)$. If all groups are connected, this gives a primitive manifold. The normalizer of $(K_-)_0$ in $Sp(2)$ is $\mathbb{Z}_2 Sp(1)Sp(1)$, where the outer automorphism in \mathbb{Z}_2 switches the two $Sp(1)$ -factors. This gives $H = \mathbb{Z}_2\Delta Sp(1)$ and K_+ as before, another primitive manifold.

- 2b) First assume $Sp(n_2) \subset H_+$. If $n_1 > 2$, so that $H = Sp(n_1 - 1)Sp(n_2)$ and we know from primitivity that $Sp(n_2) \subset H/H_-$ and therefore $K_- = Sp(n_1 - 1)Sp(n_2 + 1)$, resulting in a Grassmanian. Note that in the

case $n_2 = 2$ we have $H \simeq \mathrm{Sp}(n-3)\mathrm{Spin}(5)$, but we cannot have $H \simeq \mathrm{Sp}(n-3)\mathrm{Spin}(6)$, because that would be a maximal rank subgroup, but not isomorphic to one of the groups we have given in table 15. In the case $n_2 = 1$ we have $H = \mathrm{Sp}(n-2)\mathrm{Sp}(1)$ so that we can have $K_- = \mathrm{Sp}(n-2)\mathrm{Spin}(4) = \mathrm{Sp}(n-2)\mathrm{Sp}(1)\mathrm{Sp}(1)$ or $K_- = \mathrm{Sp}(2)$ for $n = 3$. For the first case, the standard representation of $\mathrm{Sp}(n)$ restricted to H factors into 3 nonequivalent irreducible representations $\mathbb{H}^{n-2} \oplus \mathbb{H} \oplus \mathbb{H}$ where the last factor is acted on trivially. This already determines K_- , which is standard, which would imply $\mathrm{Sp}(1) \subset H_- \cap H_+$, a contradiction. The latter case results in the action of $\mathrm{Sp}(3)$ on the Cayley plane.

If $n_1 \leq 2$ the possibilities given above arise as well, but we need to note that because of $\mathrm{corank}(H) = 1$ by corollary 1.7 we cannot have $K_+/H_+ \simeq \mathrm{SO}(3)$ or $\mathrm{SO}(5)$.

Of course, if $\mathrm{Sp}(n_1) \subset H_+$ we may just exchange $\mathrm{Sp}(n_1)$ with $\mathrm{Sp}(n_2)$, so now we assume that none of both is contained in H_+ , which amounts to either $n_1 = 1$ or $n_2 = 1$ (just assume the latter) and $H = \mathrm{Sp}(n-2)\Delta\mathrm{Sp}(1)$. The identity component of the normalizer of H in G is given by $N(H)_0 = S^1\Delta\mathrm{Sp}(1)\mathrm{Sp}(n-2)$, where S^1 is given by $\mathrm{SO}(2) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{Sp}(2)$. We can go through the possibilities for K_- by studying the isotropy representation. Two of the possibilities amount to $K_- \simeq K_+$, one of which is obviously not primitive ($K_- = K_+$), and the other one where K_- is obtained from K_+ by exchanging the first two coordinates. This is given by conjugation with the matrix having

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

as the upper left 2x2-block, and extended by the identity to the other coordinates. This is in $N(H)_0$ though, so no new primitive manifold arises. We can also have $K_- = \mathrm{Sp}(1)\mathrm{Sp}(1)\mathrm{Sp}(n-2)$, where both possible cases (the additional $\mathrm{Sp}(1)$ can be in the diagonal or offdiagonal in the upper right block of $\mathrm{Sp}(2)$) are conjugate (in $\mathrm{Sp}(2)$ this conjugation is given by

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

But this is in $N(H)_0$ as well, so again no primitive example arises. The last case is $K_- = S^1\Delta\mathrm{Sp}(1)\mathrm{Sp}(n-2)$ where S^1 is given by the standard

embedding $\mathrm{SO}(2) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{Sp}(2)$, i.e. $\mathrm{K}_- \simeq \mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{Sp}(n-2)$, which is primitive for the same reasons as above. Note that we have $l_- = 1$ here, so that components may occur. But the Normalizer of K_+ in G is K_+ itself save the case $n = 2$, which was already treated in 2a.

- 2c) We cannot have $\mathrm{K}_+/\mathrm{H}_+ = \mathrm{S}^1$, since that would imply $\mathrm{Sp}(n-1) \subset \mathrm{H}_+$ and therefore $\mathrm{K}_- = \mathrm{Sp}(n)$.

The almost effective actions of $\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{Sp}(n-1)$ on spheres are given by $(z, A) \cdot v = Avz^l$ with isotropy group $\mathrm{Sp}(n-2)\Delta\mathrm{S}_l^1$, where $\Delta\mathrm{S}_l^1$ is given by

$$\mathrm{S}_l^1 := \{\mathrm{diag}(z, z^l, 1, \dots, 1) \mid z \in \mathrm{S}^1\}$$

First assume $\mathrm{Sp}(n-2) \not\subset \mathrm{H}_-$. If $\Delta\mathrm{S}_l^1 \subset \mathrm{H}_-$, we have $\mathrm{K}_- = \mathrm{S}_l^1\mathrm{Sp}(n-1)$ where S_l^1 normalizes the $\mathrm{Sp}(n-1)$ factor. That is only possible for $l = 0$ and $\mathrm{K}_- = \mathrm{K}_+$. If $\Delta\mathrm{S}_l^1 \not\subset \mathrm{H}_-$, then we have $\mathrm{K}_- \simeq \mathrm{K}_+$ with only two choices for K_- . One is $\mathrm{K}_- = \mathrm{K}_+$, and the other is $\mathrm{K}_- = \sigma(\mathrm{K}_+)$, where σ is the coordinate change which exchanges the first 2 coordinates. But this implies $l = 1$, where we have $N(\mathrm{H})_0 = \mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{Sp}(n-2)$, which includes σ , so this manifold is not primitive as well.

From now on we assume $\mathrm{Sp}(n-2) \subset \mathrm{H}_-$, that is, $\mathrm{H}/\mathrm{H}_- = \mathrm{S}^1$. First also assume $\mathrm{K}_-/\mathrm{H}_- = \mathrm{S}^2$, which implies $\mathrm{K}_- = \mathrm{Sp}(1)\mathrm{Sp}(n-2)$. Note that $\mathrm{Sp}(1)$ and $\Delta\mathrm{S}_l^1$ have to share a common central element of order 2. If l is even, that element is $\mathrm{diag}(-1, 1, \dots, 1)$, which already implies that $\mathrm{Sp}(1)$ is standard in the upper left corner and $l = 0$, obviously not a primitive manifold. If n is odd, that element is $\mathrm{diag}(-1, -1, 1, \dots, 1)$, which is central in the upper left $\mathrm{Sp}(2)$ block, so we can look for embeddings $\mathrm{Sp}(1) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{Sp}(2)$ via embeddings $\mathrm{SO}(3) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{SO}(5)$. There are 2 of those: The standard embedding, which corresponds to $l = 1$ by the induced weights for the isotropy representation of $\mathrm{S}^1 \simeq \mathrm{SO}(2)$. This will not be primitive, because $N(\mathrm{H})_0$ contains $\mathrm{U}(2)$ in the upper left 2×2 -block which acts transitively on the possible extensions $\mathrm{S}_1^1 \hookrightarrow \mathrm{Sp}(1)$, and $\mathrm{K}_- = \mathrm{Sp}(n-2)\Delta\mathrm{Sp}(1)$ is contained in $\mathrm{Sp}(1)\mathrm{Sp}(n-1)$ as well as K_+ . The other possible embedding is given via the representation on the traceless symmetric 3×3 -matrices by conjugation (in representation terms, that's given by (4)) and corresponds to $l = 3$. Note that this representation is irreducible, so that K_- is not contained in $\mathrm{Sp}(1)\mathrm{Sp}(n-1)$, which is the maximal subgroup containing K_+ , so that the corresponding manifold is primitive.

The last case is $K_-/H_- = S^3$. Since, as before, $\mathrm{Sp}(n-2) \subset H_-$, we shift the discussion into the upper left $\mathrm{Sp}(2)$ -block. The isotropy representation of ΔS_l^1 in $\mathrm{Sp}(2)$ has 4 summands of dimension 2 and at least one trivial of dimension one. Only the two off-diagonal summands (of weight $l \pm 1$) belong to groups not contained in $\mathrm{Sp}(1)\mathrm{Sp}(1)$, which would not lead to a primitive manifold, because $K_- \subset K_+$. The off-diagonal summands belong to the standard $\mathrm{SU}(2)$ in $\mathrm{Sp}(2)$ as well as its conjugate by

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & j \end{pmatrix}$$

Note that this conjugation leaves K_+ invariant and just exchanges ΔS_l^1 with ΔS_{-l}^1 in H , so we may just assume $K_- = \mathrm{SU}(2)\Delta S_l^1$, which leaves $l = 0, -2$ (see section B). In both cases, K_{\pm} are two different maximal subgroups of maximal rank, so the manifolds are primitive (for $l = 0$ the manifold is homogeneous, a special case of 3a).

2d) We have $H_0 = S^1$, and by checking the isotropy representation as in the last paragraph of the previous case we can see $(K_-)_0 = \mathrm{U}(2)$ (note that again conjugation by $\mathrm{diag}(1, j)$ leaves K_+ invariant, and H additionally). Now $K_+ \subset K_-$ and no primitive manifold arises.

3a) First, suppose $\mathrm{Sp}(n_2) \subset H_+$, so that $H = S_k^1 \mathrm{SU}(n_1 - 1) \mathrm{Sp}(n_2)$ where

$$S_k^1 = \{ \mathrm{diag}(z^{(k+1)(n_1-1)}, \underbrace{z^{-k}, \dots, z^{-k}}_{n_1-1}, \underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_{n_2}) \mid z \in S^1 \}$$

By primitivity $\mathrm{Sp}(n_1) \not\subset H_-$, so that we must have $\mathrm{Sp}(n_2 + 1) \subset K_-$, which is contained in the normalizer of $\mathrm{SU}(n_1 - 1)$, which implies $k = -1$ if $n_1 \neq 2$, which gives a primitive manifold. If $n_1 = 2$, we have $K_- \simeq S^1 \mathrm{Sp}(n - 1)$, which was treated in 2c.

Now let $\mathrm{SU}(n_1) \subset H_+$. Then $K_+ = S^1 \mathrm{SU}(n_1) \mathrm{Sp}(n_2)$ acts in the following way: For $(z, A) \in S^1 \mathrm{Sp}(n_2)$ we have $S^{l+} \ni v \mapsto Avz^{-kn_1}$. The isotropy group H is given by $H = S_k^1 \mathrm{SU}(n_1) \mathrm{Sp}(n_2 - 1)$, where

$$S_k^1 = \{ \mathrm{diag}(\underbrace{z, \dots, z}_{n_1}, z^{kn_1}, \underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_{n_2-1}) \mid z \in S^1 \}$$

By primitivity $\mathrm{SU}(n_1) \not\subset H_-$. For $n_1 \neq 2$ this implies $\mathrm{SU}(n_1 + 1) \subset K_-$, which implies $k = 0$ and $K_- = \mathrm{U}(n_1 + 1) \mathrm{Sp}(n_2 + 1)$ or its conjugate by

$$\text{diag}(\underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_{n_1}, j, \underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_{n_2})$$

But this conjugation leaves \mathbf{H} invariant as well as \mathbf{K}_+ , so both manifolds are equivalent. Note that we cannot have $\mathbf{S}^1 \subset \mathbf{H}_-$ for we do have $\mathbf{S}^1 \subset \mathbf{H}_+$. This is one primitive example, the homogeneous space

$$\frac{\mathbf{Sp}(n+1)}{\mathbf{U}(n_1+1)\mathbf{Sp}(n_2)}$$

If $n_1 = 2$, there is an additional possibility: $\mathbf{K}_- \simeq \mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{Sp}(2)\mathbf{Sp}(n-3)$. We conjugate the whole diagram to make \mathbf{K}_- standard. Then $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{S}_l^1\mathbf{Sp}(1)\mathbf{Sp}(n-3)$ where

$$\mathbf{S}_l^1 = \{\text{diag}(z, z^l, 1, \dots, 1) \mid z \in \mathbf{S}^1\}$$

and $\mathbf{S}_l^1 \cap \mathbf{Sp}(1)$ is trivial. It is clear from this that $\mathbf{K}_+ \simeq \mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{Sp}(1)\mathbf{Sp}(n-2)$, a contradiction to the original assumption $\mathbf{K}_+ \simeq \mathbf{U}(2)\mathbf{Sp}(n-2)$ (note though that the case $\mathbf{K}_+ \simeq \mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{Sp}(1)\mathbf{Sp}(n-2)$ will be treated later, and not give a primitive example).

3b) We choose \mathbf{K}_+ such that $\mathbf{SU}(n-1) \subset \mathbf{K}_+$ is the lower right block. If we assume $\mathbf{SU}(n-1) \subset \mathbf{H}_+$, then by primitivity we have $\mathbf{K}_- \simeq \mathbf{U}(n)$, which is treated in case 2a. So we can assume $\mathbf{SU}(n-1) \not\subset \mathbf{H}_+$, which implies $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{T}^2\mathbf{SU}(n-2)$. If $\mathbf{SU}(n-2) \not\subset \mathbf{H}_-$, then $\mathbf{K}_- \simeq \mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{U}(n-1)$. By primitivity, $\mathbf{SU}(n-1) \subset \mathbf{K}_-$ is the upper left block. But $\mathbf{K}_\pm \subset \mathbf{U}(n)$ where $\mathbf{U}(n)$ is either standard or has center $\text{diag}(\bar{z}, z, \dots, z)$.

So from now on we can assume $\mathbf{SU}(n-2) \subset \mathbf{H}_-$, i.e. $\mathbf{H}/\mathbf{H}_- \simeq \mathbf{S}^1$. This implies $l_- = 2$ or $l_- = 3$, and we divide cases by \mathbf{K}_- :

- If $l_- = 2$ and $\mathbf{K}_- = \mathbf{SU}(2)\mathbf{U}(n-2)$, we re-conjugate the diagram to make \mathbf{K}_- standard. Then $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{S}_1^1\mathbf{U}(n-2)$ where $\mathbf{U}(n-2)$ is the lower right block and

$$\mathbf{S}_1^1 = \{\text{diag}(z, \bar{z}, 1, \dots, 1) \mid z \in \mathbf{S}^1\}$$

This way we see there are 2 choices for $\mathbf{SU}(n-1) \subset \mathbf{K}_+$, both of which are equivalent. Now we claim that the factor $\mathbf{SU}(2) \subset \mathbf{K}_-$ is uniquely determined by \mathbf{S}_1^1 up to conjugation in $N(\mathbf{S}_1^1)_0$, which finishes this case, because then $\mathbf{K}_\pm \subset \mathbf{U}(n)$ up to conjugation in $N(\mathbf{H})_0$.

To prove the claim we restrict the discussion to the upper left $\mathbf{Sp}(2)$ block. We have $\mathbf{Sp}(2) \simeq \mathbf{Spin}(5)$, but $\mathbf{SU}(2) \subset \mathbf{Sp}(2)$ contains the central element, so it corresponds to $\mathbf{SO}(3) \subset \mathbf{SO}(5)$, and $\mathbf{S}^1 \subset \mathbf{SU}(2) \subset \mathbf{Sp}(2)$ to $\mathbf{SO}(2) \subset \mathbf{SO}(3) \subset \mathbf{SO}(5)$. But $\mathbf{SO}(3) \subset \mathbf{SO}(5)$ is uniquely determined up to conjugation in $N(\mathbf{SO}(2))$. So there is no primitive example in this case.

- If $l_- = 2$ and $\mathbf{K}_- = \mathbf{Sp}(1)\mathbf{SU}(n-2)\mathbf{S}^1$, we claim $\mathbf{K}_\pm \subset \mathbf{Sp}(1)\mathbf{Sp}(n-1)$. As above, we restrict the discussion to the upper left $\mathbf{Sp}(2)$ block to show that $\mathbf{Sp}(1)$ is uniquely determined by \mathbf{S}^1 it contains. In $\mathbf{SO}(5)$, $\mathbf{SO}(2)$ has either three 1-dimensional trivial subrepresentations, and the $\mathbf{SU}(2)$ containing it is unique in $N(\mathbf{SO}(2))_0$, or only one, but then the $\mathbf{SU}(2)$ containing it is already determined. This shows the claim if $\mathbf{Sp}(1)$ does not contain the central element of $\mathbf{Sp}(2)$. If $\mathbf{Sp}(1)$ contains the central element of $\mathbf{Sp}(2)$, the discussion above shows that it is also uniquely determined by the \mathbf{S}^1 it contains. Again, no primitive example arises in this case.
- If $l_- = 3$ then either $\mathbf{K}_- = \mathbf{U}(2)\mathbf{U}(n-2)$ or $\mathbf{K}_- = \mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{Sp}(1)\mathbf{U}(n-2)$ we can use the same arguments as above to show that the manifold is not primitive.

3c) Suppose $\mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{Sp}(n_1) \subset \mathbf{H}_+$, so that $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{Sp}(n_1)\mathbf{Sp}(n_2 - 1)$. We have $\mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{Sp}(n_1) \not\subset \mathbf{H}_-$ by primitivity, so that $\mathbf{K}_+ \simeq \mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{Sp}(n_1 + 1)\mathbf{Sp}(n_2 - 1)$. But the \mathbf{S}^1 factor of \mathbf{H} is not diagonally embedded into the factors $\mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{Sp}(n_1 + 1)$ so that $\mathbf{S}^1 \subset \mathbf{K}_-$ can only act trivially on \mathbf{S}^{l_-} , which implies $\mathbf{S}^1 \subset \mathbf{H}_-$, a contradiction.

$\mathbf{Sp}(n_1)\mathbf{Sp}(n_2)$ can only occur as the isotropy group of a transitive effective action on a sphere in the case $n_1 = 1$. But even in that case $\mathbf{H} = \mathbb{Z}_k\mathbf{Sp}(n_1)\mathbf{Sp}(n_2)$ cannot result in $\mathbf{K}_- = \mathbf{Sp}(1)\mathbf{Sp}(n_2 + 1)$ because as above $\mathbf{Sp}(1) \subset \mathbf{H}$ is not diagonally embedded into \mathbf{K}_- .

So now we can assume $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{Sp}(n_1 - 1)\mathbf{Sp}(n_2)\Delta\mathbf{S}_l^1$, where we assume $\mathbf{Sp}(n_1)$ in the upper left block, $\mathbf{Sp}(n_2)$ in the lower right, and

$$\Delta\mathbf{S}_l^1 = \{\text{diag}(\underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_{n_1-1}, z^l, z, \underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_{n_2}) \mid z \in \mathbf{S}^1\}$$

Note that this choice actually means $\mathbf{K}_+ = \mathbf{Sp}(n_1)\mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{Sp}(n_2)$ so that \mathbf{S}^1 acts on the $(n_1 + 1)$ st coordinate. If $|l| \neq 1$, this implies $\mathbf{K}_- = \mathbf{Sp}(n_1 - 1)\mathbf{S}^1\sigma(\mathbf{Sp}(n_2 + 1))$, where σ exchanges the coordinates n_1 and $n_1 + 1$. This is not primitive, for $\mathbf{K}_\pm \subset \varphi(\mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{Sp}(n-1))$ where φ exchanges

the first with the $(n_1 + 1)$ st coordinate. If $|l| = 1$, we can actually have $\mathbf{Sp}(n_2 + 1) \subset \mathbf{K}_-$ embedded as the lower right block, but in this case it's even easier to see that the resulting manifold is not primitive.

- 3d) This case is completely analogous to 3c (for $l = 1$) in showing that the only possibility is $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{Sp}(n_1 - 1)\mathbf{Sp}(n_2)$ which does not lead to a primitive manifold again (because $\mathbf{K}_\pm \subset \mathbf{Sp}(1)\mathbf{Sp}(n - 1)$).
- 3e) First suppose $\mathbf{Sp}(n - 2) \subset \mathbf{H}_+$. This implies $\mathbf{Sp}(n - 1) \subset \mathbf{K}_-$ and \mathbf{K}_- is a subgroup of maximal rank, so we can refer to one of the previous cases.

So we can assume $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{T}^2\mathbf{Sp}(n - 3)$. If $\mathbf{Sp}(n - 3) \not\subset \mathbf{H}_-$, we have $\mathbf{K}_- \simeq \mathbf{K}_+$, and we claim that this is not a primitive manifold. For this note that both \mathbf{K}_\pm (acting on \mathbb{H}^n) have 2 one-dimensional subrepresentations, while \mathbf{H} has 3, which contain the ones of \mathbf{K}_\pm . So we see that \mathbf{K}_\pm have a common one-dimensional subrepresentation, which shows $\mathbf{K}_\pm \subset \mathbf{Sp}(1)\mathbf{Sp}(n - 1)$, so the manifold is not primitive.

We are left with the case $\mathbf{Sp}(n - 3) \subset \mathbf{H}_-$, which implies $l_- = 2$ or $l_- = 3$. We divide cases by \mathbf{K}_+

- If $l_- = 2$ and $\mathbf{K}_- \simeq \mathbf{SO}(3)\mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{Sp}(n - 3)$, we have $\mathbf{S}^1 \subset N(\mathbf{SO}(3)\mathbf{Sp}(n - 3))$. We re-conjugate the diagram so that \mathbf{K}_- is standard and $\mathbf{SO}(2) \subset \mathbf{H}/\mathbf{H}_-$ is the upper left block. Then furthermore conjugate the diagram by the matrix having

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & i \\ 1 & -i \end{pmatrix}$$

in the upper left block, extended by the identity matrix E_{n-2} . This conjugates $\mathbf{SO}(2) \subset \mathbf{H}$ into

$$\{\text{diag}(z, \bar{z}, 1, \dots, 1) \mid z \in \mathbf{S}^1\}$$

Now $\mathbf{S}^1 \subset \mathbf{H}_-$ is in $N(\mathbf{SO}(3)\mathbf{Sp}(n - 3))$ and therefore $\mathbf{T}^2 \subset \mathbf{H}$ is given by

$$\{\text{diag}(z, z, z, 1, \dots, 1) \mid z \in \mathbf{S}^1\} \cdot \{\text{diag}(z, \bar{z}, 1, \dots, 1) \mid z \in \mathbf{S}^1\}$$

This completely determines \mathbf{K}_+ and we find one primitive example.

- If $l_- = 2$ and $K_- \simeq \mathrm{SU}(2)\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{Sp}(n-3)$, we re-conjugate the diagram to put K_- into standard form, which gives $H = \mathrm{S}_1^1\mathrm{S}_2^1\mathrm{Sp}(n-3)$ where $\mathrm{Sp}(n-3)$ is the lower right block and

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{S}_1^1 &= \{\mathrm{diag}(z, \bar{z}, 1, \dots, 1) \mid z \in \mathrm{S}^1\} \\ \mathrm{S}_2^1 &= \{\mathrm{diag}(1, 1, z, 1, \dots, 1) \mid z \in \mathrm{S}^1\} \end{aligned}$$

From this it is clear that $\mathrm{Sp}(n-2) \subset K_+$ is the lower right block. But $H \cap \mathrm{Sp}(n-2) \neq \mathrm{Sp}(n-3)$, so K_+/H is not a sphere.

- If $l_- = 3$ and $K_- \simeq \mathrm{U}(2)\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{Sp}(n-3)$, we again re-conjugate the diagram to make K_- standard. Then $N(H)_0$ contains $\mathrm{SO}(3)$, so we can assume that $\mathrm{Sp}(n-2) \subset K_+$ is the lower right block, so we have $K_\pm \subset \mathrm{Sp}(2)\mathrm{Sp}(n-2)$, and the manifold is not primitive.

4a) The fact that $\mathrm{U}(n)$ is given as the centralizer of its center S^1 in $\mathrm{Sp}(n)$ leads to the same reasoning as in case 4a of 9 to show that no primitive manifolds arise in this case.

4b-4d) We will show that no primitive manifold can arise in these cases, because both K_\pm have a common one-dimensional subrepresentation when acting on \mathbb{H}^n , showing $K_\pm \subset \mathrm{Sp}(1)\mathrm{Sp}(n-1)$. For this, denote the number of one-dimensional subrepresentations of the standard representation of a subgroup $H \hookrightarrow \mathrm{Sp}(n)$ by $s(H)$. Note that if K_\pm acts on a one-dimensional subspace of \mathbb{H}^n , so does H .

- If $n_1, n_2 \geq 2$, then $s(K_+) = 2, s(H) = 3, s(K_-) = 2$ and it is clear that both K_\pm share a one-dimensional invariant subspace.
- If $n_1 = 1$ and $\mathrm{Sp}(n_1) \not\subset H_+$, then $s(K_+) = 3, s(H) = 3, s(K_-) = 2$ and it is clear that the claim holds.
- If $n_1 = 1, \mathrm{Sp}(n_1) \subset H_+$ and $n_2 > 1$, then $s(K_+) = 3, s(H) = 4, s(K_-) = 3$ and the claim holds.
- If $n_1 = 1 = n_2$, then $s(K_+) = 4 = s(H), s(K_-) = 3$ and the claim holds.

4e) Suppose $H = \Delta\mathrm{Sp}(1)\mathrm{Sp}(n_1-1)\mathrm{U}(n_2)$. Then $\mathrm{SU}(n_2+1) \subset K_- \cap N(\Delta\mathrm{Sp}(1)\mathrm{Sp}(n_1-1))$, a contradiction. So we can assume $H = \mathrm{Sp}(1)\mathrm{Sp}(n_1)\mathrm{U}(n_2-1)_k$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then $K_- = \mathrm{Sp}(1)\mathrm{Sp}(n_1+1)\mathrm{U}(n_2-1)$ and $k = 1$. If $n_2 \geq 2$, this is exactly the previous case by exchanging K_- and K_+ . If $n_2 = 2$, then $N(H) \supset \mathrm{SO}(3)$, so we can assume $\mathrm{Sp}(n_1+1) \subset K_-$ is the upper left block, which shows $K_\pm \subset \mathrm{Sp}(n_1+1)\mathrm{Sp}(n_2)$.

4f) First assume $H = T^2 \mathbf{Sp}(n_1 - 1) \mathbf{SU}(n_2)$. This implies $K_- \simeq T^2 \mathbf{Sp}(n_1 - 1) \mathbf{SU}(n_2 + 1)$ by the classification of actions on a sphere (note that this is true even in the case $n_2 = 2$, because $\mathbf{Sp}(2)/\mathbf{SU}(2)$ is not a sphere). By primitivity, $\mathbf{SU}(n_2 + 1) \subset K_-$ is completely determined for $n_1 > 1$ and we have $K_{\pm} \subset \mathbf{Sp}(n_1) \mathbf{Sp}(n_2 + 1)$, so the manifold is not primitive. If $n_1 = 1$, we have $\mathbf{SO}(2) \subset N(H)_0$, so we can assume that $\mathbf{SU}(n_2 + 1) \subset K_-$ is the lower right block and the claim holds, too.

The second possibility is $H = T^2 \mathbf{Sp}(n_1) \mathbf{SU}(n_2 - 1)$. If $K_- \simeq T^2 \mathbf{Sp}(n_1 + 1) \mathbf{SU}(n_2 + 1)$ and $n_2 > 2$ we can argue as before to show $K_{\pm} \subset \mathbf{Sp}(n_1 + 1) \mathbf{Sp}(n_2)$. If in addition $n_2 = 2$, we have $\mathbf{SO}(3) \subset N(H)_0$ so we can assume $\mathbf{Sp}(n - 2) \subset K_-$ is the upper left block, and the claim holds.

9 $G = \mathbf{SO}(2n)$, $n \geq 4$

We claim that for $n \geq 4$ the simply connected primitive cohomogeneity one $\mathbf{SO}(2n)$ -manifolds with positive euler characteristic are given by table 12

The possibilities for K_+ are given by table 13.

If a group of complex matrices is involved (e.g. $\mathbf{U}(n)$), we will deliberately use complex notation for the corresponding real matrices. In particular, for $e^{i\varphi} = z \in S^1$, we will use $\text{diag}(z, \dots, z)$ for the matrix containing $\begin{pmatrix} \cos \varphi & \sin \varphi \\ -\sin \varphi & \cos \varphi \end{pmatrix}$ on the diagonal 2×2 -blocks and 0 everywhere else.

2a) If $\mathbf{SU}(n) \subset H_+$, we have $n = 4$ and $K_- \simeq \mathbf{Spin}(7)$, because otherwise $\mathbf{SU}(n + 1) \subset K_-$, a contradiction to K_- being a subgroup of $\mathbf{SO}(2n)$. Assume the first case, then this gives one primitive example (it is primitive, because K_+ is maximal and does not contain K_- or a conjugate; it is only one because K_+ is uniquely determined by H).

So now we assume H is given by $\mathbf{S}_k^1 \mathbf{SU}(n - 1)$, where $\mathbf{S}_k^1 = \{\text{diag}(z^{(k+1)(n-1)}, z^{-k}, \dots, z^{-k})\}$ by subsection B of the appendix. We have $N(\mathbf{SU}(n - 1))_0 = \mathbf{S}^1 \mathbf{U}(n - 1) \subset K_+$, therefore $\mathbf{SU}(n - 1) \not\subset H_-$ and therefore K_- is isomorphic to $\mathbf{U}(n)$ save the case $n = 5$ where $K_- \simeq \mathbf{S}^1 \mathbf{Spin}(7)$ is also possible. In the latter case it is clear that $k = 0$ because $\mathbf{S}^1 \subset K_-$ must commute with $\mathbf{Spin}(7) \subset \mathbf{SO}(8)$. This is one primitive example, because $\mathbf{Spin}(7)$ is determined up to conjugation in $\mathbf{SO}(8)$ which also fixes H . For primitivity note that K_- cannot be embedded into K_+ and K_+ is a maximal subgroup of maximal rank.

From now on assume $K_- \simeq \mathbf{U}(n)$. The center of K_- can be conjugated into the standard diagonal \mathbf{S}^1 , and must of course commute with $\mathbf{SU}(n -$

Table 12: $\mathrm{SO}(2n)$ -cohomogeneity one manifolds for $n \geq 4$

$\mathrm{SU}(4) \subset \mathrm{Spin}(7), \mathrm{U}(4), n = 4$
$\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SU}(4) \subset \mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{Spin}(7), \mathrm{U}(5), n = 5$
$\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SU}(n-1) \subset \sigma(\mathrm{U}(n)), \mathrm{U}(n)$ where $\mathrm{S}^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(z, 1, \dots, 1)\}$ or $\mathrm{S}^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(1, z, \dots, z)\}$ and σ is conjugation by $\mathrm{diag}(-1, 1, \dots, 1)$
$\mathrm{SO}(2n_1)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2-1) \subset \mathrm{SO}(2n_1+1)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2-1), \mathrm{SO}(2n_1)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2)$ where $n_1 + n_2 = n$
$\mathbb{Z}_2\mathrm{SO}(2n-2) \subset \mathbb{Z}_2\mathrm{SO}(2n-1), \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2n-2)$ where $\mathbb{Z}_2 \subset \mathrm{SO}(2)$
$\mathrm{U}(n_1-1)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2) \subset \mathrm{U}(n_1-1)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2+1), \mathrm{U}(n_1)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2)$ where $n_1 + n_2 = n$
$\mathrm{T}^2\mathrm{SU}(n-2) \subset \mathrm{SO}(3)\mathrm{S}^1\mathrm{SU}(n-2), \mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{U}(n-1)$ where $\mathrm{S}^1 = \{\mathrm{diag}(1, 1, 1, 1, z, \dots, z)\}$, $\mathrm{T}^2 = \{\mathrm{diag}(z, 1, \dots, 1)\} \cdot \mathrm{S}^1$ and $\mathrm{SO}(3)$ is the upper left block

1), so it is determined up to the first complex coordinate, which can be z or z^{-1} . By primitivity, $\mathrm{K}_- \neq \mathrm{K}_+$, so the center of K_- is given by $z \mapsto \mathrm{diag}(z^{-1}, z, \dots, z)$, and therefore $\mathrm{K}_- = \varphi(\mathrm{U}(n))$, where φ is conjugation by $\mathrm{diag}(-1, 1, 1, \dots, 1)$. Since φ only fixes H for $k = 0, -1$, we are left with 2 comomogeneity-1-manifolds, both of which are primitive indeed: Conjugation by

$$\mathrm{diag}(-1, 1, \dots, 1)$$

on $\mathrm{U}(n)$ has the same image as conjugation by

$$\mathrm{diag}(1, 1, -1, 1, \dots, -1, 1)$$

(they only differ by $\mathrm{diag}(-1, 1, \dots, -1, 1)$, which is complex conjugation), but this restricts to complex conjugation on $\mathrm{U}(n-1)$, which is an outer automorphism and cannot possibly come from an element

Table 13: Possibilities for K_+

Factors	Group	Conditions
2	$U(n)$	–
2	$SO(2n_1)SO(2n_2)$	$n_1, n_2 > 2, n_1 + n_2 = n$
2	$SO(2)SO(2n-2)$	–
3	$U(n_1)SO(2n_2)$	$n_1 > 1, n_2 > 2, n_1 + n_2 = n$
3	$U(n-1)SO(2)$	–
3	$SO(2n-4)SO(4)$	$n > 4$
4	$U(n_1)U(n_2)$	$n_1, n_2 > 1, n_1 + n_2 = n$
4	$U(n-2)SO(4)$	–
4	$SO(4)SO(4)$	$n = 4$

of $N(H)_0 = S^1 U(n_1)$. Note that both of K_\pm must be connected, for $l_\pm = 2n - 1 > 1$.

- 2b) If $K_+ = SO(2n_1)SO(2n_2)$ with $n_1, n_2 > 2$, we may assume that $H = SO(2n_1)SO(2n_2 - 1)$ is standard, and since $l_+ = 2n_1 - 1 > 1$ we know K_- is connected. Since the action of $SO(2n)$ is primitive and almost effective, we have $K_- = SO(2n_1 + 1)SO(2n_2 - 1)$. This is the primitive action of $SO(2n)$ on the Grassmanian $G_{2n_2}(\mathbb{R}^{2n+1}) = SO(2n+1)/SO(2n_1+1)SO(2n_2)$
- 2c) K_+/H_+ is not as $O(2n-2)$ since $O(2n-2)$ is not the direct product of $SO(2n-2)$ and \mathbb{Z}_2 . If K_+/H_- is $SO(2n-2)$, this is the exact same as case 2b), giving $K_- = SO(3)SO(2n-3)$. So $K_+/H_- = S^1$, which implies $H = \mathbb{Z}_k SO(2n-2)$ for some k . Now H_- can't contain $SO(2n-2)$, so K_- must contain $SO(2n-1)$ as a transitively acting factor. Since the normalizer of $SO(2n-1)$ in $SO(2n)$ is $S(O(1)O(2n-1))$ we are restricted to $k = 1$ or $k = 2$ (note that $l_+ = 1$, so actually components may occur). For $k = 1$ this is analogous to case 2b), the action of $SO(2n)$ on the Grassmanian $SO(2n+1)/SO(2n-1)SO(2)$. For $k = 2$ we know $SO(2n-1)\mathbb{Z}_2$ is isomorphic to $O(2n-1)$ (since \mathbb{Z}_2 acts by an inner automorphism), but K_-/H_- is not $O(2n-1)$ since this would imply $H/H_- \simeq O(2n-2)$ which is not isomorphic to $SO(2n-2) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$,

which in turn H is. So $K_-/H_- = \mathrm{SO}(2n-1)$, giving a non-effective action on $\mathbb{C}P^n$.

- 3a) K_+/H_+ is not $\mathrm{SO}(2n_2)$, since that would imply that K_- has $\mathrm{SU}(n_1+1)$ as a simple factor as well as $\mathrm{SO}(2n_2-1)$. So $K_+/H_+ = \mathrm{U}(n_1)$, and therefore $H = \mathrm{U}(n_1-1)_k \mathrm{SO}(2n_2)$. Since the action is primitive and almost effective, K_-/H_- must contain $\mathrm{SO}(2n_2+1)$ as a simple factor, and since $l_+ = 2n_1+1 > 1$, K_- must be connected. So $K_- = \mathrm{U}(n_1-1)_k \mathrm{SO}(2n_2+1)$, but the normalizer of $\mathrm{U}(n_1-1)_k$ does not contain $\mathrm{SO}(2n_2+1)$ save the case $k=0$. The embedding of K_- and H into $\mathrm{SO}(2n)$ gives a faithful representation, and we can see that there is a 2-dimensional trivial subrepresentation for H , while there is a 1-dimensional trivial subrepresentation for K_- . It is clear that the latter is contained in the former and determines K_- . But $N(H)_0 = \mathrm{U}(n_1-1)\mathrm{SO}(2)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2)$ acts transitively on the 2-dimensional trivial representation (via the factor $\mathrm{SO}(2)$), so by conjugating with an element of $N(H)_0$ we can achieve K_- is standard.

This is the action of $\mathrm{SO}(2n)$ on $\mathrm{SO}(2n+1)/\mathrm{U}(n_1)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2+1)$, which is primitive because K_+ is a maximal connected subgroup of $\mathrm{SO}(2n_1)\mathrm{SO}(2n_2)$ which in turn is maximal connected in $\mathrm{SO}(2n)$. Both of these do not contain K_- , even up to components.

- 3b) In addition to the possibility from 3a) (giving the action of $\mathrm{SO}(2n)$ on $\mathrm{SO}(2n+1)/\mathrm{U}(n-1)\mathrm{SO}(3)$), there are 2 other possibilities. First, if $H = \mathrm{U}(n-2)\mathrm{SO}(2)$, we can have $K_- = \mathrm{U}(n-2)\mathrm{U}(2)$. From the isotropy representation of H in G we see that $\mathrm{U}(2)$ is contained in the lower right $\mathrm{SO}(4)$ block. It is determined by $\mathrm{SU}(2) \subset \mathrm{U}(2)$, and it is known that $\mathrm{SO}(4) = \mathrm{SU}(2)\mathrm{SU}(2)$, so there are 2 choices for the $\mathrm{SU}(2)$ factor. One of those leads to K_- being contained in $\mathrm{U}(n)$, not giving a primitive manifold (for $K_+ \subset \mathrm{U}(n)$ as well). The other one is obtained from the first by an outer automorphism, given by conjugation with $\mathrm{diag}(1, \dots, 1, -1)$. But this automorphism fixes both H and K_+ , so the resulting manifold is equivalent to the first one.

Secondly we can have $K_+/H \simeq \mathrm{U}(n-1)$, so that $H = \mathrm{T}^2\mathrm{SU}(n-2)$. First assume $\mathrm{SU}(n-2) \not\subset H_-$, which implies $K_+ \simeq K_-$. Both K_{\pm} have a 2-dimensional subrepresentation from their embedding into $\mathrm{SO}(2n)$, which is necessarily given by $\mathbb{R}e_1 \oplus \mathbb{R}e_2$ or $\mathbb{R}e_3 \oplus \mathbb{R}e_4$, and we chose K_+ the way that this is $\mathbb{R}e_1 \oplus \mathbb{R}e_2$. If it's the same for K_- , we have $K_{\pm} \subset \mathrm{U}(n)$, so the manifold is not primitive. If it is $\mathbb{R}e_3 \oplus \mathbb{R}e_4$, we look at the center of $\mathrm{U}(n-1) \subset K_-$. If it is given by

$$\{\text{diag}(z, 1, 1, z, \dots, z) \mid z \in \mathbb{S}^1\}$$

we again have $K_{\pm} \subset \mathbf{U}(n)$. If it is given by

$$\{\text{diag}(\bar{z}, 1, 1, z, \dots, z) \mid z \in \mathbb{S}^1\}$$

we have $K_{\pm} \subset \sigma(\mathbf{U}(n))$, where σ is conjugation by $\text{diag}(-1, 1, \dots, 1)$.

So now we can assume $\mathbf{SU}(n-2) \subset H_-$, which implies $H/H_- = \mathbb{S}^1$, and therefore $l_- = 2$ or $l_- = 3$. We divide cases by K_- :

- If $K_- = \mathbb{S}^1 \mathbf{SU}(2) \mathbf{SU}(n-2)$, we look at the centralizer of $\mathbf{SU}(2)$ in the upper left $\mathbf{SO}(4)$ -block: It is either given by $\text{diag}(z, z)$, so that $K_{\pm} \subset \mathbf{U}(n)$, or $\text{diag}(\bar{z}, z)$, which implies $K_{\pm} \subset \sigma(\mathbf{U}(n))$, where σ is as above.
- If $K_- = \mathbf{SO}(3) \mathbb{S}^1 \mathbf{SU}(n-2)$ with $\mathbf{SO}(3) \subset N(\mathbb{S}^1 \mathbf{SU}(n-2))$, we can re-conjugate the diagram to achieve that K_- acts trivially on $\mathbb{R}e_4$. This implies $H = \mathbb{S}_1^1 \mathbb{S}_2^1 \mathbf{SU}(n-2)$ with $\mathbf{SU}(n-2)$ in the lower right block and

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{S}_1^1 &= \{\text{diag}(z, 1, \dots, 1) \mid z \in \mathbb{S}^1\} \\ \mathbb{S}_2^1 &= \{\text{diag}(1, 1, 1, 1, z, \dots, z) \mid z \in \mathbb{S}^1\} \end{aligned}$$

We note that $\mathbf{SU}(n-1) \subset K_+$ is in $N(\mathbb{S}_1^1)$, so it is in the lower right block. This gives one primitive example.

- If $K_- \simeq \mathbf{U}(2) \mathbf{U}(n-2)$, we can use the same reasoning above to see that the manifold is not primitive.
- 3c) There are 2 actions arising in the same way as described in 2b), namely $\mathbf{SO}(2n)$ acting on either $\mathbf{SO}(2n+1)/\mathbf{SO}(2n-3)\mathbf{SO}(4)$ or $\mathbf{SO}(2n+1)/\mathbf{SO}(2n-4)\mathbf{SO}(5)$. We only need to note that l_+ is odd by corollary 1.7.
- 4a) None of the actions arising are primitive. We have

$$H = \mathbb{T}^2 \mathbf{SU}(n_1) \mathbf{SU}(n_2 - 1) \text{ and } H_+ = \mathbb{S}^1 \mathbf{SU}(n_1)$$

Since $H_- \cap H_+$ is finite, $\mathbf{SU}(n_1) \subset H$ cannot act trivial in K_- , and therefore K_- is isomorphic to $\mathbf{U}(n_1 + 1) \mathbf{U}(n_2 - 1)$. As in case 2a) we can determine the embedding via the center. The standard embedding

yields $K_-, K_+ \subset U(n)$ and therefore not a primitive action, so the center has to be given by

$$(z_1, z_2) \mapsto (\underbrace{z_1, \dots, z_1}_{n_1}, z_1^{-1}, z_2, \dots, z_2)$$

which implies that both K_- and K_+ are contained in the subgroup of $SO(2n)$ isomorphic to $U(n)$ with center

$$\left\{ (\underbrace{z, \dots, z}_{n_1}, z^{-1}, z^{-1}, \dots, z^{-1}) \mid z \in S^1 \right\}$$

- 4b) This case is completely analogous to case 3a), because $SO(4)$ cannot act as $SO(3)$ for the same reason as in 3c).
- 4c) Again, no new example other than the ones arising from case 2b can occur because l_+ is odd by corollary 1.7.

9.1 $Spin(2n)$, $n \geq 4$

We claim that there are no simply connected primitive cohomogeneity one $Spin(2n)$ -manifolds with positive euler characteristic for $n \geq 4$ such that the element -1 (which projects to the identity, but is not the identity itself) does not act trivially (i.e. it is not an action of $SO(2n)$).

First, it is easily seen that in the case $n = 4$, there can only be examples that are coming from an $SO(8)$ -example. Consider the maximal torus T^4 of $Spin(8)$, containing the maximal torus T^3 of H (the corank of H is 1 by corollary 1.7). The group of involutions \mathbb{Z}_2^4 in T^4 contains the center \mathbb{Z}_2^2 of $Spin(8)$, which therefore has nonempty intersection with the group of involutions \mathbb{Z}_2^3 of T^3 . Therefore, H contains an element of the center of $Spin(8)$. Since the quotient of $Spin(8)$ by any central \mathbb{Z}_2 is $SO(8)$, this shows the claim.

Now we have reduced the table of possibilities for K_+ to those given in table 14 (where $\hat{U}(n)$ is the preimage of $U(n) \subset SO(2n)$), where $n > 4$.

The last case is easily dismissed as well, since we already know from section 9 that no such manifold will be primitive (the proof carries over almost verbatim).

- 2a) We look at the projection of the diagram in $SO(2n)$. For the same reasons as in 2a) of section 9 we know $SU(n) \not\subset H$, so $H = S_k^1 SU(n-1)$, where

Table 14: Possibilities for K_+

Factors	Group	Conditions
2	$\hat{\mathbf{U}}(n)$	–
3	$\hat{\mathbf{U}}(n-1)\mathbf{Spin}(2)$	–
3	$\hat{\mathbf{U}}(n-3)\mathbf{Spin}(6)$	–
4	$\hat{\mathbf{U}}(n_1)\hat{\mathbf{U}}(n_2)$	$n_1, n_2 > 1, n_1 + n_2 = n$

$$\mathbf{S}_k^1 = \{\text{diag}(z^{(k+2)(n-1)}, z^{-k}, \dots, z^{-k}) \mid z \in \mathbf{S}^1\}$$

and k is odd. As already shown in 2a) of section 9 we have $\mathbf{K}_- \simeq \mathbf{U}(n)$ as well (note that the case $n = 5$ and $\mathbf{K}_- \simeq \mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{Spin}(7)$ cannot occur here for it implies $k = 0$), and since the diagram is primitive, $\mathbf{K}_- = \varphi(\mathbf{U}(n))$ where φ is the conjugation by $\text{diag}(-1, 1, \dots, 1)$, which restricts to complex conjugation of the first component on \mathbf{S}_k^1 . The latter is only invariant under φ in the cases $k = 0, -2$, but the quotients are spheres in these cases and so there are no new cases here.

- 3a) As before, we will consider the situation in $\mathbf{SO}(2n)$. As in case 3a) of section 9, we have that \mathbf{H} is given as $\mathbf{U}(n-2)_k\mathbf{SO}(2)$, where $\mathbf{U}(n-2)_k$ is determined by

$$\mathbf{S}_k^1 := \{\text{diag}(1, 1, z^{(k+2)(n-2)}, z^{-k}, \dots, z^{-k}) \mid z \in \mathbf{S}^1\}$$

with k odd. This implies $\mathbf{K}_-/\mathbf{H}_-$ is given by either $\mathbf{SO}(3)$ or $\mathbf{U}(2)$. But both cases imply $k = -2$, a contradiction.

- 3b) Again, we will consider the diagram of subgroups of $\mathbf{SO}(2n)$. If $\mathbf{K}_+/\mathbf{H}_+ = \mathbf{SU}(4)$, we have $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{SU}(n-3)\mathbf{S}^1\mathbf{SU}(3)$, a contradiction, because \mathbf{K}_- would have to contain $\mathbf{SU}(n-2)$, but there is no embedding of $\mathbf{SU}(n-2)\mathbf{SU}(3)$ into $\mathbf{SO}(2n)$. The same reasoning shows $\mathbf{H} \neq \mathbf{U}(n-3)\mathbf{O}(5)$. We are left with $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{S}_k^1\mathbf{SU}(n-4)\mathbf{SO}(6)$ where \mathbf{S}_k^1 is given by

$$\mathbf{S}_k^1 = \{\text{diag}(z^{(k+2)(n-4)}, z^{-k}, \dots, z^{-k}, \underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_{6 \text{ times}})\}$$

with k odd. But in that case $\mathbf{SO}(2n)/\mathbf{H}$ is simply connected, a contradiction.

A Tables

G	K_+
$SU(n)$	$S(U(n_1)U(n_2)\cdots U(n_k))$ where $n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_k = n$
$SO(2n)$	$SO(2n_1)\cdots SO(2n_k)U(m_1)\cdots U(m_l)$ where $\sum n_i + \sum m_i = n$
$SO(2n+1)$	$SO(2k+1)SO(2n_1)\cdots SO(2n_k)U(m_1)\cdots U(m_l)$ where $k + \sum n_i + \sum m_i = n$
$Sp(n)$	$U(n_1)\cdots U(n_k)Sp(m_1)\cdots Sp(m_l)$ where $\sum n_i + \sum m_i = m$

Table 15: Connected subgroups K_+ of maximal rank of the simple classical Lie groups

Dimension	K	H	Isotropy representation
n	$SO(n+1)$	$SO(n)$	ρ_n
$2n+1$	$SU(n+1)$	$SU(n)$	$\mu_n \oplus id$
$2n+1$	$U(n+1)$	$U(n)$	$\mu_n \oplus id$
$4n+3$	$Sp(n+1)$	$Sp(n)$	$\nu_n \oplus 3id$
$4n+3$	$Sp(n+1)Sp(1)$	$Sp(n)\Delta Sp(1)$	$\nu_n \hat{\otimes} \nu_1 \oplus id \hat{\otimes} \rho_3$
$4n+3$	$Sp(n+1)U(1)$	$Sp(n)\Delta U(1)$	$\nu_n \hat{\otimes} \phi \oplus id \hat{\otimes} \phi \oplus id$
15	$Spin(9)$	$Spin(7)$	$\rho_7 \oplus \Delta_8$
7	$Spin(7)$	G_2	ϕ_7
6	G_2	$SU(3)$	μ_3

Table 16: Transitive effective actions on the sphere S^n

B Sphere actions of $U(n)$

B.0.1 Identifying the S^1

Actions of $U(n)$ on spheres of dimension greater than 1 are given in the following way: $A \in U(n)$ acts by $(\det A)^k A$. It is easily seen that the isotropy

group of such an action is given by

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 0 & & & \\ 0 & & A & \\ \vdots & & & \end{pmatrix} \mid A \in \mathbb{C}, A \in \mathbf{U}(n-1), a^{k+1} = \overline{\det A}^k \right\}$$

Also one easily verifies that this is $\mathbf{S}_k^1 \mathbf{SU}(n-1)$ where

$$\mathbf{S}_k^1 = \{\text{diag}(z^{(k+1)(n-1)}, z^{-k}, \dots, z^{-k}) \mid z \in \mathbf{S}^1\}$$

Replace z by z^n and write this as a product of

$$\text{diag}(z^{n-1}, z^{n-1}, \dots, z^{n-1})$$

and

$$\text{diag}(z^{(k+1)(n-1)n-(n-1)}, z^{-kn-(n-1)}, \dots, z^{-kn-(n-1)})$$

where the first is an element of the center and the second in $\mathbf{SU}(n)$, so one can figure out the isotropy group if the group is embedded in a larger one.

B.0.2 Actions of $\mathbf{U}(n)$ on real projective spaces

If $\mathbf{U}(n)$ acts transitively almost effectively on the real projective space $\mathbb{R}P^{2n-1}$, the isotropy group is given by $\mathbf{S}_{l,k}^1 \mathbf{SU}(n-1)$, where

$$\mathbf{S}_{l,k}^1 = \{\text{diag}(z^l, z^{-k}, \dots, z^{-k}) \mid z \in \mathbf{S}^1, \gcd(k, l) = 1\}$$

We want to show $l = (k+2)(n-1)$.

To prove that, we look at the map $\pi_1(\mathbf{S}_{l,k}^1) \rightarrow \pi_1(\mathbf{U}(n))$ induced by inclusion. We have $\pi_1(\mathbb{R}P^{2n-1}) = \mathbb{Z}_2$, so the image has index 2 in the fundamental group of $\mathbf{U}(n)$. We know $\mathbf{S}_{l,k}^1$ is homotopic to

$$\{\text{diag}(z^l, z^{-k(n-1)}, 1, \dots, 1)\} = \{\text{diag}(z^{\frac{l}{a}}, z^{-k\frac{n-1}{a}}, 1, \dots, 1)\}$$

where $a = \gcd(l, n-1)$. This in turn is homotopic to

$$\{\text{diag}(z^{\frac{l}{a} - k\frac{n-1}{a}}, 1, \dots, 1)\}$$

By what we said above, it is clear that $|\frac{l}{a} - k\frac{n-1}{a}| = 2$. First suppose $\frac{l}{a} - k\frac{n-1}{a} = 2$. Then $\frac{l}{a} = k\frac{n-1}{a} + 2$, and we consider the following sequence (where homotopy is denoted by \simeq):

$$\begin{aligned}
& \{\text{diag}(z^{k\frac{n-1}{a}}, z^{-k\frac{n-1}{a}}, 1, \dots, 1)\} \\
&= \{\text{diag}(z^{(k\frac{n-1}{a}+2)(n-1)}, z^{-k(n-1)\frac{n-1}{a}}, 1, \dots, 1)\} \\
&\simeq \{\text{diag}(z^{(k\frac{n-1}{a}+2)(n-1)}, z^{-k\frac{n-1}{a}}, z^{-k\frac{n-1}{a}}, \dots, z^{-k\frac{n-1}{a}})\}
\end{aligned}$$

By replacing k by $k\frac{n-1}{a}$, we arrive at the aforementioned form. A similar computation shows the same if $\frac{l}{a} - k\frac{n-1}{a} = -2$.

The converse of the claim is also clear from the above computation: The index of the image of $S_{l,k}^1$ in the fundamental group of $U(n)$ has index 2, if $l = (k+2)(n-1)$ and $\gcd(l, k) = 1$.

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